



# Make your own pooter!

What's a pooter? It's a handy device for collecting insects, so that you can look at them without touching or harming them.

## You will need:

- A clear plastic tub with a lid, such as a clean, dry hummus pot
- Sticky tape
- A ballpoint pen
- Modelling clay or sticky tack
- Scissors
- A paper straw (the wider the better), or make one by rolling up and taping thin card
- Some old, thin tights or muslin

## What you do:

1. Make a hole in each side of the tub by pushing the pen through the plastic into a large lump of modelling clay or sticky tack.
2. Cut the straw in half and push one half into one of the holes, holding it in place with sticky tack if necessary.
3. Cut 2-3 cm off the other half of the straw, put to one side and cut a 2-cm-long slit down one side of the piece that's left. Push this through the other hole in the tub (slit end first).
4. Cut out a small piece of fabric from the tights or muslin, about 3 cm x 3 cm. Cover the slit end of the straw with the fabric, then push the 2 cm section over it to hold it on (the slit should make this section narrower, so that it fits inside). Replace the lid.
5. To catch small insects, point the uncovered straw at the insect and suck gently on the other straw to pull it into the tub.

