

# *They Danced by the Light of the Moon*

# How to Make your Bottle Lantern



We're very excited that you're making a lantern for your window to brighten up Southwell this Christmas! This year we've been inspired by the adventures of the Owl and the Pussycat bringing a bit of love and light to this festive season. The instructions below will help you recycle an ordinary plastic drinks bottle into a colourful lantern to display on Fri 4 Dec until Mon 14 December for all to see. We hope you have fun making your lantern and looking for others on your local walks around the area.

We'd also love you to share photos of your lanterns with us: email: [info@visitsouthwell.com](mailto:info@visitsouthwell.com)



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 Southwell Events



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#bythelightofthemoon

# The Owl and the Pussycat

## by Edward Lear



We will be decorating a plastic bottle with tissue paper and creating a lantern based on the poem to light up in your window.

What will inspire you:  
Cats, owls, turkeys, pigs,  
green boats, honey or  
runcible spoons?

## To make your lantern you will need:

A clean plastic bottle - any size but the straighter the sides the better.

## Coloured tissue paper

## Scissors for cutting tissue

PVA glue (white craft or children's pva glue)

Pots for glue & paint  
brush for gluing

Cover for your table.

Battery operated lights:  
strings of fairy lights or  
small LED lights

For hanging lanterns:  
string or wire, hole punch  
or stapler

## MAKING YOUR BOTTLE LANTERN



**WARNING – sharp, adults only:** Cut the top off your bottle, use a sharp knife to pierce a hole then cut around the base of the neck with knife or scissors. Some bottles you can fold and cut into to start a hole. Trim the top edge smooth. Tall bottles can be shaped at the top too.



Your lantern can sit on your windowsill but if you want to hang it up use a hole-punch to make 2 holes and thread with string or wire. Or staple string onto each side, knotting the ends under the staples to stop it slipping out. You can also use the wire to hang small lights from.



Thin the PVA glue with a little water. Draw your design onto the bottle or put a picture inside the bottle to follow. Big bold designs work best. Tear your tissue into small pieces and glue them onto the bottle. Cover the whole bottle, you can trim any overlapping tissue from the top once dry. You can also cut the tissue into shapes or add decorated cardboard shapes, like wings.



Coat all your tissue in a thin layer of glue to seal the tissue down and leave to dry. Once dry you can add extra details with marker pens, or neaten up your outline drawing that's showing through. If you don't want to get sticky, draw a picture on normal white paper with felt pens (or crayons), tape around the bottle (or put it inside). You can also use permanent marker pens to draw onto the bottle, it's quite 'see-through' - put white paper inside to help you to see what you're drawing.



Well done, you've finished your lantern. Now you just need to pop your lights inside, put it in your window, and enjoy that lovely colourful glow!

Don't forget to share photos with us too ☺