



Not-So-Fantastic-Plastic

Plastics Penalty Pot (Rwanda)

Plastic waste can impact life on land, in the air and in oceans, lakes, rivers and streams. Rwanda, known as the Land of a Thousand Hills, is serious about preventing plastic pollution. It was the first country in the world to ban all single-use plastic bags. People who break the rules there must pay a fine.



You'll Need:

- clean, empty jar
- white paper
- pencils, pens, or paints
- scissors
- glue or tape



- 1 Cut a piece of paper to fit around your jar. Write a label on the paper: "Plastics Penalty Pot."
- 2 Decorate the paper. Rwanda is known for the bold graphic designs woven into traditional **agaseke** (*ogg-ah-SEK-ay*, baskets like the ones below). Try drawing a similar pattern on your paper.
- 3 Glue or tape the paper to your jar.

Using Your Penalty Pot

Talk with your family and agree on some new plastic rules, like taking reusable bags when shopping, packing lunches in reusable containers and/or refusing plastic straws when offered (if possible). Whenever someone breaks one of the plastic rules, they place a small fine in the Plastics Penalty Pot.