

Eco Craft: Make a Pet Woolly Bear Family

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So you're walking along and you spot a fuzzy black and brown caterpillar. What do you do? Say hello and meet the woolly bear! Here are 3 amazing facts about the woolly bear:

They're like fortune tellers. They are covered in short bristles — black ends with an orange middle. Some believe that their bands predict what kind of winter it will be. If the orange band is short, it means it will be snowy. If it's long, it will be mild. What does your woolly bear predict?

They have freezing powers. Woolly bears are nocturnal but sometimes walk around in the day time, munching on leaves and hiding under leaves. In the winter, they hibernate in a sheltered spot and their body freezes solid to protect their organs. They can survive temperatures of -90 degrees! You can take their picture, but please leave them where they are and be kind to their habitat.

They spin a cocoon with their own fur. Woolly bears hatch from moth larvae in the fall, so they're out and about in September and October. In the spring, they eat a lot of dandelions, spin a fuzzy cocoon of their own fur and turn into the beautiful Isabella tiger moth.

Here's a short woolly bear video: <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Hg15TjAozow&t=23s>

Pet Woolly Bear Family

Glue together black and orange pom poms. Apply eyeballs. If you have a felting tool and felting wool, you can make your woolly bear that way. Make the whole family!

Attach a piece of string or pipe cleaner as a leash if you like so you can walk your pets around, or let them wriggle through the leaves!

Make them a habitat: Gather leaves, sticks and grass from outside and decorate an empty tissue box or shoe box to make a cozy home. Be creative and add more materials from your recycle bin.

