

Bowerbirds and Blue Things

One of the most common items bowerbirds find are blue plastic bottle top lids and rings. The rings are dangerous as they can get stuck around a bird's neck. If you are throwing them out make sure you cut them so they can slide off a bird's neck or better still recycle them. The following passage explains how plastic bottle lids can be recycled to help the planet and other people.

Small plastic lids cannot be recycled in curb side waste bins because they fall through the gaps in the recovery machinery which jams it. Instead of adding them to the regular waste bin they can be collected and donated to charities such as Lids4Kids or Precious Plastic. These groups sort the lids into their various colours and remake the lids into new products, including combs, coasters, clipboards and phone holders.

It takes around 220 lids to make an A4 clipboard, 12 to 15 lids to make a coaster and around 19 to make a comb. You can watch collected lids being shredded, melted and reshaped into a comb on Facebook -

<https://www.facebook.com/ZeroPlasticsAustralia/videos/549669689385210/>

1 Why can't bottle tops be recycled the same way as bottles?

2 How can bottle tops be recycled?

3 What do companies do with the bottle tops?

Uses comprehension strategies to expand content knowledge.

