

Billy Can

AHM004183



Make your own billy can

What you will need to make a billy can:



- Empty tin can (with lid safely removed)
- metal wire coat hanger (not plastic coated)



- drill with metal drill-bit (size 4)
- pliers (with in-built wire cutter)

What to do:

Step 1: Ensure the can is empty, the lid is removed, there are no jagged edges, and any labels have been removed from the outside.

Step 2: Drill a hole at either side of the can's top. *This should be done by an adult.*

Step 3: Un-wind the coat-hanger and, using the pliers, straighten the wire.

Step 4: Push one end of the wire through one of the holes you have made. Using the pliers make a loop at the end of the wire to stop it from falling back out of the hole.

Step 5: Bend the wire into the shape of a loop handle and cut-off any excess length. Then push the loose end of the wire through the other hole at the top of the can and close it with a loop. You should now have a basic billy can.



**Inquiry/ discussion question examples on next page*

Inquiry/ discussion question examples

- Imagine you are a miner on the goldfields - What would you have used to assemble your billy-can and how?
 - tools and technologies available to the people living on the goldfields
 - The resourcefulness and make-do approaches to life on the goldfields
- What types of canned food might have the miners been eating? Where would it have come from, how and why?
 - Diet and cooking on the goldfields
 - International imports and exotic goods, local produce, merchants and general stores at the goldfields
- Why do we start to see the billy can develop into the AHM004183 version? Identify the changes and why (functional and design improvements)?