How to build a tippy tap

What is a Tippy Tap?
In many of the countries that WaterAid works in, communities use a simple device called a tippy-tap to wash their hands.

A tippy tap works by using the foot to tap a lever to tip water out from a container. It means hands can be washed without touching the stand – therefore stopping the spread of dirt and bacteria.

You will need:
- 4 long sticks (about 1.2m long)
- 2 shorter sticks (about 90cm long)
- Stones
- Screwdriver
- String
- 3L milk container

Step 1
Ask an adult to use a screwdriver to make 2 holes in the top of the milk container, either side of the lid.

Step 2
Construct the frame out of the four longer sticks, by pushing them into the ground in a tepee shape, and tying together at the top with string.

Step 3
Put the stones on the ground underneath to stop puddles forming.
Step 4
Lay the shorter stick horizontally across the two tepee shapes you’ve formed with the longer sticks.

Step 5
Tie a piece of string to one end of the second shorter stick. Then tie the other end of the string to the neck of the milk bottle.

Step 6
Half fill the milk bottle with water and place the crossbar through the handle. When you place your foot on the stick, the container will tip forward and you can wash your hands!