

Create your own musical instruments

Tin Can Drums



Equipment:

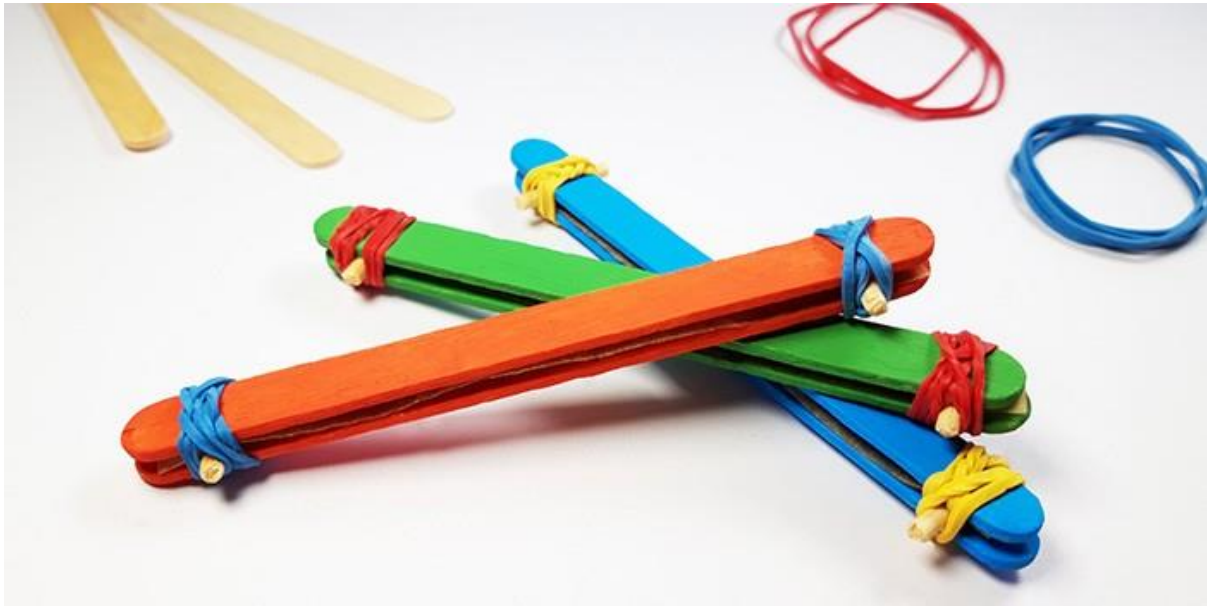
A balloon
Scissors
A ring-pull tin can (being careful to check for sharp edges) or a cardboard gravy container

PVA glue
Ribbon or decorations of choice
2 paper straws
2 small pom-poms

Instructions:

1. Cut off the neck of the balloon. Stretch the remaining balloon over the top of the tin. Pull the sides of the balloon down so that the top is taught, and the balloon has a firm grip on the sides of the tin. It should stay in place, but you could use an elastic band or tape to keep it secure if not.
2. Glue on the decorations and allow to dry.
3. To make a drumstick, glue a pom-pom to the end of a straw. Repeat for the second drumstick and allow to dry. Now you're ready to bang out a rhythm!

Harmonica



Equipment:

Non-toxic paint
Elastic bands
Greaseproof paper
Lolly sticks
Wooden matchsticks or
toothpicks

Paintbrush
Pencil and ruler
Scissors

Instructions:

1. Paint two lolly sticks on both sides and allow to dry.
2. Cut a piece of greaseproof paper the same width and length as the lolly sticks and place between them.
3. Cut the matchsticks to about 2cm long and lay one vertically between the sticks and greaseproof at one end. Wrap an elastic band around the lolly sticks, going either side of the matchstick to secure in place.
4. To finish, repeat step 3 at the other end of the lolly stick. To use, blow through the small gap between the lolly sticks.

Panpipes



Equipment:

Lolly stick
Paper straws (as many as
needed to match the
length of your lolly stick)
Ribbon or washi tape, to
decorate

PVA glue
Scissors
Pencil

Instructions:

1. Lay the straws flat on a table and decide on the lengths you'd like them to be – the larger the steps between the straws, the bigger the difference in pitch.
2. Mark with a pencil, then cut the straws to different lengths. Lay them out next to each other, with the top edges lined up.
3. Apply glue to the back of the lolly stick and carefully place on top the straws, making sure it touches every straw. Allow to dry.
4. Finish by covering the lolly stick with ribbon or washi tape, to decorate. To play, simply blow across the top of the straws.

You can make all sorts of instruments, big and small, depending on what you have in the house. Make a bigger set of panpipes using drinks bottles or milk cartons or fill up jam jars with different amounts of water to make a xylophone. Have fun playing with different notes and see what songs you can make!