# **Make Homemade Castanets**



Most kids love musical instruments, and there's no reason to spend money buying them. You can whip up these castanets and kick up your heels in a flamenco dance in a matter of minutes.

### What You Need:

- Cardboard
- Safety scissors
- 4 bottle caps (buttons or washers)
- A hammer
- Superglue
- Glitter, markers, and other decorations

#### What You Do:

- 1. Being careful to keep the fingers out of your workspace, flatten the bottle caps with a hammer.
- 2. Draw two wide strips with rounded edges onto the cardboard and allow the child to cut them out, using the safety scissors. Fold each in half, so they look like duck bills.
- 3. Put a dab of glue on the jagged edge (the bottom) of each bottle cap. Glue one to the top and one to the bottom of the inside of each piece of cardboard, so the bottle caps meet when you close the cardboard "duck bills." This is a job for adults only.
- 4. When the glue is thoroughly dry, let the child decorate them with markers, glitter, or whatever else she fancies. Once they're dry again, hand the child the castanets and show her how to press the upper and lower cardboard together so the bottle caps meet and click. She'll have one for each hand. Ole!

http://www.artistshelpingchildren.org/cincodemayomexicancraftsideaskids.html

# Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead)

Day of the Dead is a Mexican holiday observed throughout Mexico and around the world in other cultures. The holiday focuses on gatherings of family and friends to pray for and remember friends and family members who have died.

In most regions of Mexico November 1 is to honor children and infants, whereas deceased adults are honored on November 2. This is indicated by generally referring to November 1 mainly as *Día de los Inocentes* ("Day of the Innocents") but also as *Día de los Angelitos* ("Day of the Little Angels") and November 2 as *Día de los Muertos* or *Día de los Difuntos* ("Day of the Dead"). Wikipedia

# Day of the Dead Piñata



http://www.craftychica.com/2012/10/video-sugar-skull-pinata-tutorial-no-balloon/



# **Day of the Dead Mask Hat Craft**

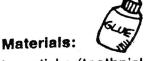
Walnut Shell White paint Paint (or Sharpies) String

Paint the walnut shell white. Paint black eye sockets, nostrils, and teeth. Decorate as desired. Hot glue a string on the back and hang from your camp hat.





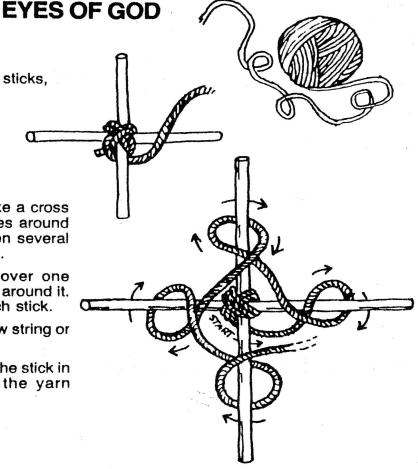




two sticks (toothpicks, ice cream sticks, dowels, twigs) colored string or yarn

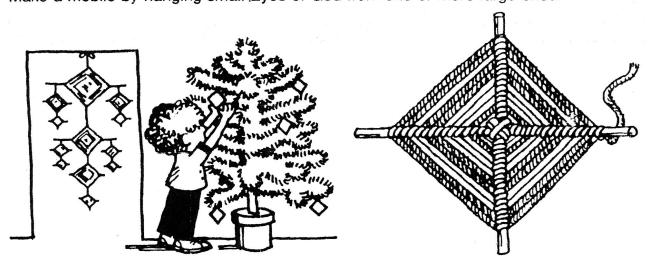
### Procedure:

- Tie two sticks together to make a cross by wrapping yarn several times around them in one direction and then several times the other way. Pull tight.
- 2. Weave one strand of yarn over one stick, under it again, and then around it. Continue this pattern with each stick.
- Add other colors by tying a new string or yarn to the previous one.
- 4. When finished, dip the end of the stick in glue and wrap the end of the yarn around it.



## Suggestions:

- 1. Make large Eyes of God for Christmas ornaments.
- 2. Use small ones for necklaces, pins, and earrings.
- 3. Make a mobile by hanging small Eyes of God from one or more large ones.





# **Mini Sombrero**

Decorate mini straw hats and turn them into sombreros. Add a pin to make a SWAP, a name to make a place card or a painted rock to make a paper weight.

#### You need:

- Mini Straw Hat
- Yarn
- Mini Pony Bead
- Tacky Glue or Fabric Glue and toothpicks.
- Scissors
- Jewelry Craft Pin or Tie Tack and Low Temp Glue Gun

## **Instructions:**

Good fabric glue will hold better and dry faster but you can use other types of glue such as tacky glue ultimate crafter's glue or a low temp glue gun. Decorate the hat with yarn using small dabs of glue on a toothpick. Cut a 5" piece of yarn. Tie a knot 1/2" from the center. String a mini pony bead on to both ends. Push up to the knot. Glue an end to each side of the bottom of the hat. Hot glue on a pin if desired.

## **Maracas SWAPS**

#### You need:

- Wooden beads
- Long colourful beads
- Embroidery floss
- · Paint or markers

## Instructions:

Take a long bead (for the handle) & a piece of embroidery floss (folded to use for pinning to your hat) and glue them in the hole of a wooden bead. Use bright paint or markers to decorate the wooden bead. When dry, pin your maraca on your camp hat.





### **Monarch Butterfly** Suncatcher

This planet-friendly craft reuses large pop bottles and scrap paper to make three beautiful butterflies.

#### Materials

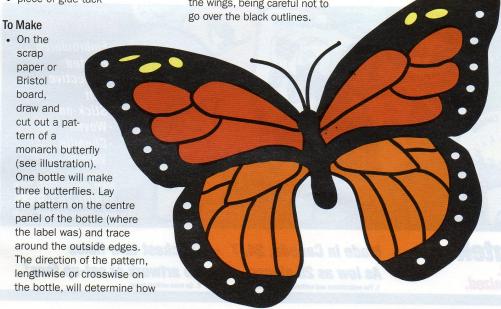
- · clear two-litre pop bottle, cleaned and label removed
- · piece of scrap construction paper or Bristol board
- · fine-tip permanent marker
- · tubes or squeeze-bottles of fabric paint in black, orange, yellow and white
- sharp-ended scissors
- ruler
- · one-hole punch and clear thread
- piece of glue tack

the wings curve. Use the sharp point of the scissors to pierce the bottle and cut off the top. Cut out the butterflies.

- Lay the plastic cut-out over the pattern and, using the permanent marker, trace the pattern on the wings. Don't worry about tracing the dots along the edges; they go on after the black is painted. To fold back the wings, lay a ruler along the edge of the body and gently fold the wings over it towards the body.
- Paint black lines on the wings and the antennae, and then fill in the borders of the wings and the body. Let dry.
- Paint in the orange areas on the wings, being careful not to

- Paint three large yellow dots on the top of each wing. Paint white dots on the borders of the wings. Let dry.
- Punch a hole in the tip of each wing; cut two lengths of clear thread; tie to the butterfly through the holes and hang in your window. Or use a small rectangle of glue tack on the back of the body to stick it to a window or mirror. Or make a plant poke by gluing it to the square end of a wooden chopstick and inserting the tapered end into a plant pot.

Terri Bouvier, St. Albert, AB



Canadian Guider SPRING 2008

# **Tacos & Tostadas**



Mexican food is a huge part of celebrating Cinco de Mayo. To celebrate this fun holiday and all the tasty meals that go with it, try making these adorable foam tacos and tostadas.

## What you'll need:

- Tan craft foam, cut into a 3-4" circle
- Brown, yellow, green and red craft foam, cut into strips
- White craft glue
- Hot glue gun

#### How to make it:

- 1. To make the taco, glue brown foam strips to the circle. Be sure they are hanging over the edge so they will be sticking out when you fold the taco.
- 2. Repeat Step 1 with each color until you've worked your way around the circle. Fold the circle in half as you go to make sure it looks right. Use green for lettuce, yellow for cheese, and red for tomato salsa.
- 3. Fold the circle in half and hot glue in place to hold it closed.
- 4. For the tostada, smear the circle with white craft glue. Cover with brown foam strips.
- 5. Dot white glue on top of the brown strips and add a layer of yellow and orange foam strips for the look of cheese.
- 6. Dot white glue on top of the "cheese" and add the "lettuce" by gluing on green strips.
- 7. Lastly, cut a few red strips into squares and glue the "tomatoes" on top.

### Tips:

- You can purchase craft foam in individual sheets in many colors, or you can purchase packages of various shapes, sizes and colors. Either option will work since they can easily be cut down to strips.
- You can add a magnet to the back of your taco and hang it on the fridge!
- Felt can be substituted for foam in this craft.

http://crafts.kaboose.com/tacos-tostadas.html



Girl Guides of Canada, Ontario Council

1997 Craft Book International & Guiding

# **Mexican Yarn Painting**

Yarn painting encourages creativity and an appreciation of texture and design used in another culture. The thickness of wool and the complexity of the patterns used allow this craft to be successfully completed by children with a variety of skill levels.

## Materials:

Coloured yarn Card or fabric for backing White glue, pencils, scissors

### Method:

- Draw design onto backing or create design as work proceeds.
- Cover shape with white glue, a section at a time.
- Wind yarn onto glued section. Begin at edge if section is not circular.
- To create a circle, wind the yarn into a flat circle between fingers and thumb before gluing in place.

### Use:

Create a World Trefoil or a toadstool for a Thinking Day Card or for a special invitation.

