

Strike Up a BEAT – Spring is Here!

Rayne Storm (2009)

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With Spring comes Rain...and Rain means we need to find things to do indoors. So here are a few ideas that are affordable (cheap) and easy to make, to Welcome Spring Back!

DUMPLIN DRUMS



Here's What You'll Need:

- (1) 3" Paper Mache Circle Box
- (1) 2" Sponge Painting Brush
- Craft All Purpose Tacky Glue
- (1) Package of Wooden Beads
(or other Beads)

(all the above should be in your craft department of any Wal-mart)

- Garden Twine or other Strong String/Cording about 2 ft. (2 – 12 in. pieces)

(I just happen to have some Twine in my Garden Box)

- FOR PARENTS: pencil, ruler and a “stabbing tool” like scissors or a knife



Approximate Cost: \$5 (depending on what you have and what area you live)

Here's How to Make Them: *Note: they need to dry overnight!

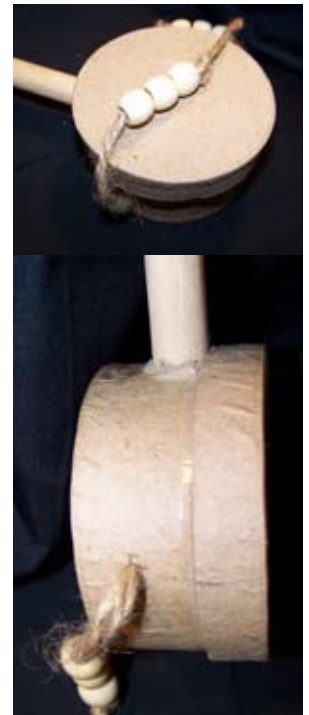
1. If you choose to decorate or color the paper mache boxes – its easier to do it now. (My boys opted not to)

2. Place the lid on and draw around it, onto the side of the bottom of the box. Remove Cover and you should now have a ring around the bottom box. Pick a spot on the side of the box centered between the bottom and the line you just drew and mark it with a pencil. Now with a ruler (or eye it) judge its equal on the other side and mark it with a pencil. Now puncture a small hole for your string/twine to go through.

3. Push the twine through the hole - with the tip of the pencil or a yarn needle. On the outside of the box put three beads on the twine (you can use less – but three weights it about right) and knot the bottom of the twine – make sure its large enough that the beads won't slide off. Trim if you choose to. Do this to both sides.

4. Put the lid on. Then place the outside twine with the beads on it – across the top of the box. Mark the twine at the opening on each side of the box. Remove the lid. Now pull the twine from the inside until the beads are up against the outside of the box. Find your mark on the twine and make a knot just above it. Make it big enough that it won't pop through the hole. (Than I add another knot just incase) Repeat with the other side.

5. Now pick a spot between the two beaded chords and make a small pencil mark. Try to make it as close to being centered between them as you can. Pick up your paint brush and hold the bottom wooden handle up against the box - on your mark, but below that first ring around the box you drew. You want the handle to miss the cover. Trace the circumference of the paintbrush handle – the opening size with your pencil. Now Puncture out the area – from the outside in. Slid the paintbrush – handle first into the hole from the INSIDE. You may



have to wiggle it a little. The sponge part should fit snugly inside the box and the handle should be all the way through.

6. Put tacky glue all over the area between the ring you drew on the bottom box and the top near the opening. Put the lid on. Flip upside down so the cover is on bottom. Run a bead of glue all around the edge between the bottom box and cover. It will help to seal it. You may have noticed some boxes have a gap and this will allow the glue to run down making a better seal. Leave upside down - overnight to dry.

7. To play roll the handle between the palms of your hands – back and forth.

The World's Easiest and Cheapest Drums: (great for 'little' drum circles)

MAKE HAND DRUMS *This will also need to dry overnight!

Here's What You'll Need:

- An empty oatmeal container or a large circle paper mache box. (either or both) (the oatmeal container (which is taller) is more like a "conga" where the shorter paper mache box is more of a lap drum)
- Tacky glue
- Decorations, Crayons, ect...

Here's What You Do:

1. Decorate your drum(s).
2. Glue the lid on and let dry overnight! (you don't have to glue it – but it gives it a purpose other than a box that can be filled with who knows what – And I know!)
3. To Play...find your rhythm and play along.



Alright maybe you need something a little different...you don't have little drummers

MAKE A MINI TAMBORINE *This will also need to dry overnight!

Here's What You'll Need:

- (1) 3" paper mache circle box
- Tacky glue
- (4) pieces of pipe cleaner / fuzzy sticks – cut in half (I use kitchen shears)
- (8) Little Mini Bells (you can double them up if you like)
- PARENTS: A pencil, a ruler and a "stabbing tool" like scissors or a knife

Here's What You Do:

1. Decorate your box.
2. Place the lid on and draw around it onto the side of the bottom of the box. Remove Cover and you should have a ring around the bottom box. Pick a spot on the side of the box centered between the bottom and the line you just drew and mark it with a pencil. Now make seven more marks all the way around...try to keep them evenly spaced. Now make a second mark about 1/4" away to the left of



each of the eight previous marks you made. Puncture with a small hole all 16 marks. (an old seam ripper point makes good little holes)

3. With all 8 fuzzy sticks (4 sticks cut in half) place 1 bell on each stick. Then poke each end of the fuzzy sticks through each set of holes (through the holes that are each about 1/4" each from each other) – one end in each hole. Pull the ends of the sticks - from the inside of the box - tight, so the bells are tight against the outside of the box (they don't need to indent into the box) then twist the ends together securely on the inside of the box.

4. Finally, glue the lid on like step 6 of the dumpling drums and leave overnight to dry.

5. To Play, Just shake it, tap it off the side of your hip or the palm of your other hand.

Feeling ambitious and need more...than change it up a bit.

MAKE "MARACAS" * This will also need to dry overnight!

Here's What You'll Need:

- the left over beads from making the Dumplin Drum or plastic beads (or you can use rice, but I don't recommend it for people like myself in areas where humidity can be a moldy problem)
- Tacky glue
- (2) 3" Circle Paper Mache Boxes (use one box if you aren't making a pair)
- (OPT.) 2" Sponge Paintbrush – 1 for each Maraca you plan on making
(if you made a dumpling drum, you will have two left over)
- and PARENTS to mark and puncture holes again!

Here's What You Do:

--Start here if you ARE using a handle--

1. Mark the ring around the box (step 1 of the drums) then pick a spot to draw the circle for your handle (like step 5 of the drums).

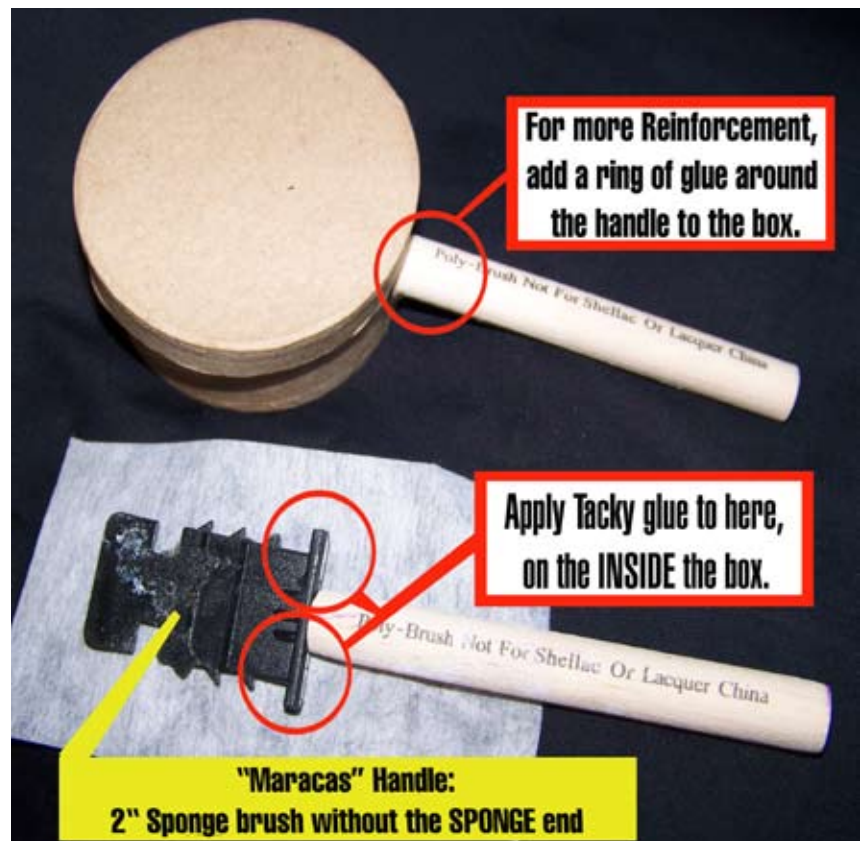
2. Now remove the sponge part of the paintbrush – leaving the handle and the plastic tab inside the sponge intact. Insert the handle in the hole like you did for the drums.

--Start here if you ARE NOT using a handle--

3. Add beads or Rice or other rattle material into the inside of the circle box. Don't fill it to much – it needs room to shake. (test it: put the lid on and shake the box – holding the cover and bottom together so the beads don't come flying out).

4. Once you are happy. Glue the lid on like step 6 of the drums. Leave upside down to dry overnight.

5. To play just shake, shake...shake away!!



A little something for everyone...

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