

BUILD A RAINSTICK

A rainstick is a percussion instrument that mimics the sound of rain.

They are traditionally made from dead cactus tubes with cactus spines hammered to the inside and filled with tiny pebbles. Learn more about the origin of rainsticks at:

climatekids.nasa.gov/rainstick



MATERIALS YOU'LL NEED:

- Paper towel roll
- Crayons or markers
- Scrap paper
- Scissor
- Tape
- Aluminum foil
- Rice, seeds, and/or beans

STEP 1

Trace the base of the paper towel roll on a piece of paper. Make a larger circle around it, then draw lines from the outer circle to the inner circle.



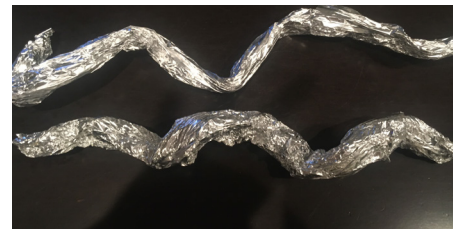
STEP 2

Cut along the outer circle line, then cut down the lines between the circles. Repeat steps 1 & 2 to create a second circle; these will cap the ends of your rainstick.



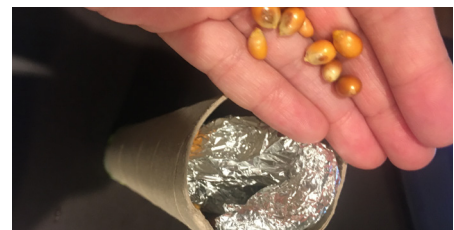
STEP 3

Create a cap by folding the paper tabs around one bottom of the tube and adhere with tape all the way around.



STEP 4

Add materials inside your tube that will help create a “rain” sound. First, roll two strips of aluminum foil and twist to form each into a spiral. Place your coils in the tube.



STEP 5

Add rice, seeds, beans, and/or small gravel to the tube.

STEP 6

Attach the paper cap to the other end with tape. Don't forget to decorate too!



HINT: flip your rainstick slowly for a really good rain sound!