

Rain Sticks

Prior to class:

Purchase one cardboard mailing tube for each child. rice, and 2" nails (smaller if the tube is not 2" across)

From here, you can decide how much you will do prior to class and how much your children can do themselves. If you allow them to do the painting, then you would want to do this craft over 2-3 weeks working on it a little at a time.

Pound nails into cardboard tube– spiraling the nails up and down the tube.

When you investigate the tube, you should see a maze of nails going in every direction.

Roll masking tape around and around the tube, covering all the nail heads. Do not be neat, you need it to look rough when it is finished.

Once you have put tape around the entire tube, take your hands and rub them around the tube. Up and down. This is where it will begin to look like an actual piece of wood.

Paint the tube black.

After it has dried completely, take a soft, wide brush and dip it into the green paint. Dab the brush off onto a piece of newspaper or paper towel to where there is not much paint on the brush. Now, lightly feather it up and down the tube. Hitting the peaks and not the valleys of the tape. This will give the tube a tree like effect. (Note you can use a dark brown first and then a lighter brown on top instead of green. Or you can use a black with light brown on top.) Experiment with your colors.

Place hot glue on the sides of one cap and a little around the inside rim of the tube. Snap the cap into place. Make sure all ends are glued EXTREMELY well before putting the rice into them. The last thing you want is a bunch of rice everywhere.

Pour approximately 1 1/2 cups of rice into the tube

Run glue around the other cap and snap it onto the tube

For added security, you can add tape around both caps. This will keep the caps on until the glue has dried

Wrap a piece of string (hemp works well and is natural-looking as well) around the tube, two or three times, and tie a knot. Make sure you leave a piece of string hanging about 8 inches on each end of the string

String beads along each string and tie in a knot at the ends

Stick a feather down through the beads so that the quill end is sticking in through the beads and the feather end is sticking out. Glue into place so it does not come out.

Turn the tube over and over to hear the rain sound.

Note: I found a long tube and created a fun example to share with the children.

If you know of someone who does works with building plans or art, you may be able to snag some used ones (FREE) which are perfect...if they have the end caps.

















A THOUSAND
TIMES I FAILED.

SEE YOUR

Mercy

REMAINS



A THOUSAND
TIMES I FAILED.
SAY YOUR
MERCY



A THOUSAND
TIMES I FAILED.

SAVE YOUR

Energy

REMAINS

