



Project Idea: Make a Piggy Bank

Recommended for Step 1: Make something to solve a problem, Choice 1: Help yourself

Setup: Papier-mâché is a craft that uses paper and glue to make sculptures. The wet paper and glue can be molded to make different shapes that harden when the paper dries. By putting papier-mâché on a balloon, you can make a piggy bank. Piggy banks can help you store coins and save money.

Materials needed:

- Newspaper
- Craft glue
- Water
- Bowl
- Balloon
- ½ of an egg carton
- Acrylic paint, tempura paint, or colored tissue paper
- Safety scissors
- Craft knife (for adult use only)
- Glue brushes
- Permanent markers
- Masking tape
- Buttons for eyes and pipe cleaners for tail (optional)
- Sponge, plastic bottle cap, or modeling clay for stopper (optional)

Note to Volunteers: To allow time for drying, this activity may take more time than one meeting needed to complete.

Activity:

1. Rip the newspaper into strips that are about 1 inch wide and a few inches long.
2. Make a paste by mixing 2 parts craft glue to 1 part water in a bowl.
3. Blow up the balloon and tie a knot.
4. Dip strips of newspaper into the paste, scrape off extra paste with your fingers, and use the strips to cover the balloon in two layers. Let it dry.
5. Cut 5 cups from the egg carton (4 feet and 1 nose) and 2 triangles (2 ears) from the top of the carton. Tape them to the balloon for the pig's feet, nose, and ears.
6. Decorate the pig by painting or gluing small pieces of colored tissue paper. Use markers to draw a mouth and eyes. If you want, glue on buttons for the eyes or add a tail by inserting the end of a pipe cleaner through a small hole you cut in the back of the bank. Let it dry.
7. Have an adult cut a slot for the coins behind the pig's ears (on its back). The balloon will pop, but that's ok.
8. If you want an opening to get money out, have the adult cut a hole at the bottom (in the tummy). To use a sponge for a stopper, cut it to be just a little bigger than the hole. To use a bottle cap, cut the hole to be the size of the cap, so it will fit snugly. Or, use modeling clay or masking tape to cover the hole.