

# spare **parts** in the classroom July, 2013

Compiled by  
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## **Introduction**

In this guide, we brought together lesson plan ideas for teachers, detailing the materials used, appropriate grade levels & steps to recreate these activities. The supplies used for these activities can be found at this summer's Fine Arts Fair or can be easily found at the nearest thrift store, your home, or your school. We hope these plans inspire educators & students to create their own activities with reusable materials.

Thank you to all the creative & education community members who contributed to this publication.

-Dezarre & Lisa

## **About**

spare **parts** supports: cultural & environmental sustainability; affordability & accessibility to the arts; & community, education & creativity, green-style. spare **parts**' purpose is unprecedented in San Antonio. It is the leader in reuse education through the arts. spare **parts** responds to: a noted lack of creativity in K-12 classroom; City of San Antonio's "Creating a Pathway to Zero Waste" 10-year plan; & our thriving arts & cultural community that makes a positive impact on the economy.

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## The Chancla (Sandal) Stomp

By Giovanna Carrola & Oralia Lopez

### Materials (per child)

- Foam (sticky on 1 side)
- Paint for printmaking
- T-shirt (to make T-shirt Yarn)
- Paper
- Cardboard
- Pencil
- Tray for Paint
- Scissors

### Ages/Grade Levels

5 years old & Up / PreK & Up

### Subjects

Learning Shapes  
Art

### Directions

1. Trace/cut cardboard to the shape of a chancla.
2. Punch holes & glue letters, string, & shapes on bottom of the chancla.
3. Attach T-shirt yarn strap to cardboard & tape to secure.
4. Peel backing off foam to expose sticky side.
5. Attach cardboard & press to firmly attach.
6. Step in paint.
7. Stomp on paper to make a design / artwork.

### How to make T-shirt Yarn

[Website #1](#)

[Website #2](#)

[Website #3](#)

### Other Info./Suggestions

Glue shapes on the bottom to learn shapes.

Glue letters to spell words – or “How many words can you make?”

“Stomp to the music” – change the music & see what you get.

## Superhero Pals

By Ana Rodriguez

### Materials (per child)

- Paper bag, any size
- Paint swatches
- Paper clips & other decorations
- Scissors
- Glue stick

### Ages/Grade Levels

5-6 years old / K-1st Grade

### Subjects

Play Time

Art

### Directions

1. Cut out eyes & mouth on the brown paper bag.
2. Cut out fun shapes & decorations for your superhero!
3. Add paper slips for teeth if you wish!
4. Name your superhero.
5. Play & share your superhero with the class!



## Geo Pinwheel

By Kari Savage Egg

### Materials (per child)

- Straw
- Hole punch
- Paint swatches
- Yarn
- Tape

### Age/Grade Level

5 years old / K

### Subjects

Math

Science



### Directions

1. Cut out four shapes from the paint samples.
2. Stamp a hole out of the left hand corner of each paint swatch with a hole punch.
3. Get the yarn & string it through the holes. Tie it to where it creates a pinwheel shape.
4. Flip over the pinwheel base & place the straw at top of the pinwheels center. Use clear tape to secure the straw onto the pinwheel.



## Solar System

By Carrie Powell

### Materials (per child)

- Blue or clear plastic bottle
- Pillow stuffing (polyfill)
- Paint swatches
- Glue stick
- Clear tape
- White yarn or string
- Paper clip

### Ages/Grade Levels

5-7 years old / K-2nd Grade

### Subject

Science

### Directions

1. Get the stuffing & make a cloud. Place it in the bottle.
2. Cut out a sun from the paint samples. Tape on a paper clip on the back (the end of the string where the sun hangs from).
3. Get a long piece of yarn to tie around the cloud & tie a knot where you want your sun. The paper clip will act as a weight & a place to tie the string.
4. Place the string in the bottle.
5. Add paint samples to make grass & other decorations.



## Sky in a Bottle

By Adison Williams

### Materials (per child)

- Plastic bottle
- Pillow stuffing (polyfill)
- Yellow paint swatches
- Glue
- Pencil

### Ages/Grade Levels

5-7 years old / K-2nd Grade

### Subject

Science

### Directions

1. Clean out plastic bottle.
2. Place stuffing into the plastic bottle to make your cloudy sky.
3. Then cut out a sun shape out of the yellow paint samples.
4. Glue on the sun on the outside of the bottle.

### Other Info./Resources

Learn about all types of clouds!



## Shapes, Geometry, Plant Life

By Christy Shu

### Materials (per child)

- Cardboard
- Yarn
- Paint swatches
- Stapler
- Scissors
- Glue stick

### Ages/Grade Levels

5-7 years old / K-2nd Grade



### Subjects

Art  
Math  
Science

### Directions

1. Cut the cardboard to a rectangle & then create a triangular prism. Staple the triangular prism together.
2. Wrap yarn around the prism & secure the it.
3. Cut triangles, circles, squares, & other fun shapes!
4. Slip shapes thru the tangles of the yarn. Use glue stick to make shapes stay on cardboard.
5. Share your triangular prism with a partner. Take turns naming the different shapes you have.

### Other Info./Resources

You can use this to show how children can cut all sorts of fun shapes out & make a vase. Sky's the limit with this project!





## Memory Bottle/Retell/Message in a Bottle

By Dalinen Hendon

### Materials (per child)

- Plastic bottle
- Paint swatches
- Scissors

### Ages/Grade Levels

6-11 years old/1-5th Grade

### Subjects

Reading

Oral Language

### Directions

1. Get a plastic bottle & clean any residue.
2. Cut paint samples into thin horizontal strips.
3. Write names & events on the paint strips to retell or create a story as you pull the strip from the bottle.

### Other Info./Resources

More names & events the better!





## Number Scrabble (Number order/Recognize)

By Jackie Freeman

### Materials (per child)

- Plastic bottle
- Computer keyboard number keys 0-9

### Ages/Grade Levels

5-6 years old / K-1st Grade

### Subject

Math

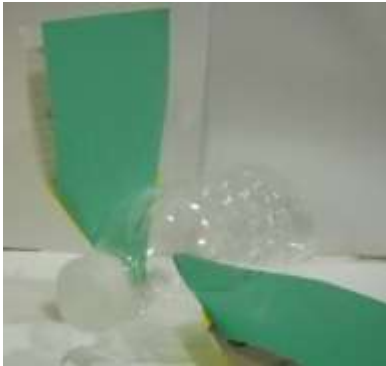
### Directions

1. Clean plastic bottles & pop out the number keys.
2. Place the number keys in the plastic bottle.
3. Give the bottle a good shake to mix the number keys.
4. Dump out the numbers!
5. Call out the numbers for quick recognition 0-9.
6. Put in order greatest to least or least to greatest.

### Other Info./Resources/Suggestions

Add enough letter keys to give more of a variety.  
Students can work together in pairs.





## Bugs

By Cora Schmitz

### Materials (per child)

- Plastic bottle
- Paint swatches
- Misc. decorations
- Scissors

### Ages/Grade Levels

5-7 years old / K-2nd Grade

### Subject

Science

### Directions

1. Place the plastic bottle horizontally & cut two slits, one on each side.
2. The student will then fold paint samples into a pentagon to make the wings.
3. Next step is to insert the wings into the bottle to create a butterfly or dragonfly.

### Other Info./Resources

This project can relate to a lifecycle (Metamorphosis).



## Modernism Art-Picasso, Matisse

By Christine Williamson

### Materials (per child)

- Scissors
- Paint swatches
- Glue stick
- String

### Ages/Grade Levels

5-7 years old / K-2nd Grade

### Subject

Art

### Directions

1. Study the artwork of Matisse & Picasso.
2. Cut out your own inspired shapes from paint swatches.
3. Glue the shapes onto your surface.
4. Place a string on the back & hang on wall.

### Other Info./Resources

You can also use this activity to learn about Cubism!



## Silly Plastic People

By Eric Cavazos

### Materials (per child)

- Plastic bottle
- Plastic cup
- Sharpie
- Foam (sticky on 1 side)
- Pillow filling (polyfill)
- Glue

### Ages/Grade Levels

6 years old & Up / Elementary-High School



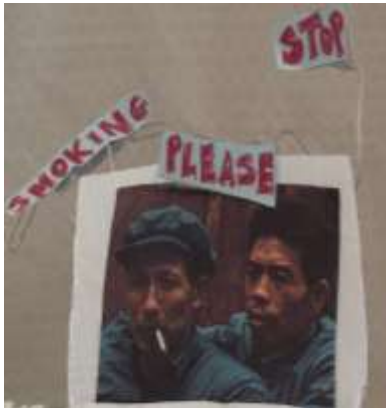
### Subject

Art

### Directions

1. Draw a silly face on the plastic cup & add cotton filling to the top as hair.
2. Attach the plastic cup to the sticky side of foam. Then glue the foam to the top of the plastic bottle.
3. Decorate the plastic bottle with bits of foam.





## Positive Messages, “Drug Free Week”

By Carla Veliz

### Materials (per child)

- Paper towel roll
- Pillow filling (polyfill)
- Yarn
- Glue
- Paper
- Markers
- Foam (sticky on 1 side)
- Magazines
- Paper clips

### Ages/Grade Levels

10-18 years old / Middle-High School

### Subjects

Health

Art

### Directions

1. Find a picture in a magazine & create a theme such as Drug Free Week.
2. Use a paper towel roll & cover it with paper. Wrap the ends in yarn. Add cotton filling on one end.
3. Attach the magazine picture to the foam. Write a slogan & attach it to the foam using paper clips.
4. Glue or tape the foam to the paper towel roll.



## Marco Polo's Trip to Asia

By Perla Loftin

### Materials (per child)

- Paper towel roll
- Straws
- Paper
- Marker
- Yarn
- Glue
- Scissors
- Foam (sticky on 1 side)
- Tape

### Ages/Grade Levels

All ages / All Grade Levels

### Subjects

History/Social Studies  
Art

### Directions

1. Fold the sticky foam & cut in a "boat shape."
2. Remove white film of foam on back & place straws inside. Stick together.
3. Form sail with strips of paper towel roll in lattice work.
4. Tape sail to straws to act as masts.
5. Decorate with sign & name the boat.



## Letters in a Bottle

By Meghan Farley

### Materials (per child)

- Plastic bottle
- Computer keyboard letter keys, vowels & consonants

### Ages/Grade Levels

4-6 years old / PreK-1st Grade

### Subjects

English  
Spelling

### Directions

1. Provide enough keyboard letters for each student.
2. Fill plastic bottle with the keyboard letters.
3. Call out a letter & have a race to see who can find the called out letter first.

### Other Info./Resources

You can also have students spell out words!







## Balloon Bottle

By Claudia Loera

### Materials (per child)

- Plastic bottle
- Plastic cup
- Paint swatches
- Tape
- Marker
- Scissors

### Ages/Grade Levels

3-5 years old / PreK

### Subjects

Art  
Music

### Directions

1. Cut up pieces of paint swatches & place them in the plastic bottle.
2. Tape a plastic cup to the top of the bottle.
3. Decorate the outside.
4. Use as a rattle.

### Other Info./Suggestions

You can also use glitter & water to make something like a snow globe!





## Rock Out!

By Amanda DeMarco

### Materials (per child)

- Plastic bottles
- Paper clips
- Rubber bands
- Cardboard (or soda/shoe box)
- Straws
- Plastic or paper cups
- Tissue paper

### Ages/Grade Levels

All ages / All Grade Levels

### Subjects

Music

Art

### Directions

1. To create the string instrument, take cardboard box & wrap rubber bands around opening. You can strum these rubber bands.
2. To create the maraca, fill a plastic bottle with paper clips.
3. To create the drum, cover a plastic or paper cup with tissue paper & wrap a rubber band around the cup. Use straws as drumsticks.
4. To create the kazoo, make an inch cut in the top of a straw.
5. You can decorate the outside of all of these instruments.



## Hearts & Flowers Bouquet

By Mel Brown-Heimtz

### Materials (per child)

- Staples or tape
- Straws
- Paint swatches
- Plastic bottle
- String

### Ages/Grade Levels

5-6 years old / K-1st Grade

### Subject

Art

Holiday

### Directions

1. Wrap the plastic bottle in paint swatches & tie with string.
2. Cut shapes, like hearts & flowers, out of the paint swatches.
3. Cut straws to use as stems.
4. Staple or tape the shapes to the straws & put them in the plastic bottle.





## Soft

By Jennifer Datchuk

### Materials (per child)

- Paint swatches
- Cotton filling (polyfill)
- Glue
- Scissors

### Ages/Grade Levels

5-7 years old / K-2nd Grade

### Subjects

Science

Art

### Directions

1. Cut out different shapes from the paint swatches. They can be anything like animals, flowers, hearts, etc.
2. Glue the soft cotton filling to different parts of the shapes, like tails for animals.
3. Decorate the swatches with other details.



## Little Monsters

By Annie Gravell

### Materials (per child)

- Plastic bottle
- Duct tape
- Paper
- Straw
- Cotton filling (polyfill)
- Scissors
- Markers

### Ages/Grade Levels

4-8 years old / PreK-3rd Grade

### Subject

Art

### Directions

1. Wrap a plastic bottle with paper or tape. Decorate it with shapes, or draw scales & feathers.
2. Cut out shapes from paper for eyes & feet. Tape these to the plastic bottle.
3. Cut two holes on the sides of the bottle & place straw through bottle to be arms.
4. Add cotton filling to the top as hair.





## **Popsicle Sunburst**

**By Lisa Callender**

### **Materials (per child)**

- Popsicle sticks
- CD
- Glue
- String (optional)

### **Ages/Grade Levels**

8 years & Up / 3rd Grade & Up

### **Subject**

Art

### **Directions**

1. Cover the surface of a CD in glue.
2. Arrange popsicle sticks around the edges of the CD.
3. Cover the surface of another CD in glue & place it over the popsicle sticks.

### **Other Info./Suggestion**

Optional: Tie string through the center of the CDs & hang as a decoration or an ornament.





## Pan's Flute

By Lisa Callender

### Materials (per child)

- Paper towel rolls
- Straws
- Scissors
- Tape
- Glue

### Ages/Grade Levels

11 years & Up / 6th Grade & Up

### Subjects

Art  
Music  
Mythology

### Directions

1. Cut paper towel rolls down the center.
2. Roll them & make tighter rolls. Tape the edges.
3. Cut varying lengths of rolls.
4. Glue or tape the rolls together from longest to shortest.
5. Add straws for decoration.

### Other Info./Resources

This activity can teach students about mythology & the Greek god, Pan!

## Learning the Flowers

By Dezarre Boone

### Materials (per child)

- Cupcake cups
- 3 pipe cleaners
- Plastic bottle
- Brown paper bag
- Scissors
- Hole Punch

### Ages/Grade Levels

5-7 years old / K-1st Grade

### Subjects

Art

Science

### Directions

1. Fold the cupcake cup in half then fold again. Cut a heart shape at the top & use a hole puncher to punch a hole in the center.
2. Use the 3 pipe cleaners & make a small circle on one end. Then pull the cupcake petal cups through give it a twist to secure from falling. Then untwist the bottom to create the roots.
3. Cut or rip pieces of a brown paper bag & put in a plastic bottle to represent the dirt. Place the flower in the bottle.

### Other Info./Suggestions

This flower provides a visual when learning the parts of the flower rather than cutting up a real one! Kids can also label the parts after the project is complete.







## Tom the Timekeeper

By Dezarre Boone

### Materials (per child)

- Cardboard
- Black marker
- 4-6 pipe cleaners
- Scissors
- Hole punch

### Ages/Grade Levels

5-7 years old / K-1st Grade

### Subject

Math

### Directions

1. Cut out a circle from the cardboard.
2. Then write the numbers on the circle & draw your clock a face. Do the four ticks in between each number.
3. Make a pair of arms & legs for your clock with pipe cleaners. Make your large & small arrows
4. Puncture a whole in the middle to pull your arrow pipe cleaners through.
5. Place your arms & legs in between the cracks of the cardboard.

### Other Info./Resources/Suggestions

Excellent to teach little kids to tell time!