RAINSTICK ACTIVITY

Recommended for families with young children
In West Africa and Australia they use bamboo or hollow wood and nails, while in South America dried cactus and thorns are the materials available.

In both cultures small stones or seeds are placed inside and turned slowly upside down to make the sound of rain.

Did you know... Many indigenous cultures have created instruments similar to rainsticks.

What do you think the rain sounds like?
Materials:

- Cardboard tube
- Tissue paper squares
- White glue (watered down)
- Colored markers (alternative to tissue paper and glue)
- LOTS of small objects like dried beans, rice or rocks
- Paper or fabric squares
- Aluminum foil
- Tape
- Paint brush
Decorate the outside of the cardboard tube by applying white glue and covering it with tissue paper. Use colored markers as an alternative.

Set aside to dry.

Place aluminum foil inside the dried tube.

Ta-da!
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Cut two circles between 3 to 5 inches wide.

Tape the paper to one end of the decorated and dried cardboard tube.

Place beans, seeds or small rocks inside of the tube and cover the other side with the second paper square or circle.
Now turn your rainstick over to listen to the sound. Try turning slowly or quickly to make different sounds.

Record your rainstick sounds!
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