



Rain Stick

Close your eyes and imagine the sounds of the rainforest. Between the macaw squawks, monkey howls, and insect chirps, what else might you hear? Make your own rain stick to mimic the sound of rain falling from the canopy to the understory.

Materials

Printed tube-cap templates (page 3)

Paper towel tube or 2 toilet paper tubes

Rain stick filling (rice, dehydrated beans, gravel, or pebbles)

Crayons, markers, or colored pencils

Tape

Optional: blank paper to wrap around tube for decorating

Directions

1. **Remove** any leftover paper from your cardboard tube. If using 2 toilet paper tubes, tape them together one on top of the other to make one longer tube.
2. **Decorate** your rainstick! Color directly on the cardboard, or trim and tape a piece of paper to wrap around it for a white background. Think about a rainforest for inspiration. What colors would you see? Can you draw some lines or a pattern to represent rain?
3. **Print** the tube-cap templates on page 3, and decorate them however you'd like.
4. **Cut out** the tube-cap templates along the solid lines. The circles will be the end covers of your rain stick and the tabs will help you tape them to your tube.



5. **Fold** the tabs along the dotted lines.
6. **Cover** one end of the tube with a tube-cap and **tape** the tabs to the cardboard tube.
7. **Add** a small handful of filling of your choice to your tube: dried goods like rice or beans or gravel from outside. Just enough to cover the circle at the bottom of the tube should be enough.
8. **Cover** the other side of the tube with the second tube-cap and securely **tape** the tabs.
9. **Make it rain!** Slowly turn the tube upside down, then right side up. What does it sound like? Can you make your rain stick sound like a light pitter-patter? How about a summer storm?



