

Make a cup and ball toy

You will need: empty yoghurt or cream pot (small), paint, paintbrush, decorative materials such as parcel/present tape and stickers, glue, 30cm of string, large bead or button, skewer or similar, Blu Tac.

Instructions:

1. Paint the yoghurt or cream pot. Acrylic paint works well. Leave to dry.
2. Decorate with tape, stickers or any other craft materials you have to hand. We glued on squares of metallic card that we recycled from product packaging.
3. Using a skewer or similar, pierce a hole in the base of the pot. Make sure you use the Blu Tac inside the pot under where you plan to push the skewer.
THIS STEP SHOULD BE DONE BY AN ADULT.
4. Cut approximately 30cm of string. Thread one end into the hole in the base of the yoghurt pot and knot.
5. Thread and knot a large bead or button onto the other end of the string. We used an old button.
6. The toy is now complete! The challenge is to try and get the bead/button into the pot through a gentle throwing action. Good luck!

Fun facts: this craft is based on the 'cup and ball' toy. It usually had a wooden handle with a cup at one end, and a length of string was attached to the handle with a wooden ball at the other end of the string. It was a popular toy in Victorian England, and we have several examples that are utilised in the museum's 'Victorian Toys' primary school session.

