

# Make a snake

**You will need:** 5-7 cardboard rolls, string, scissors, thin card (from a cereal box or similar), black felt tip pen, 10-12cm of ribbon, stapler, glue stick, paint, paintbrush.

## Instructions:

1. Paint the cardboard rolls (outside only) in the colour or colours of your choice. Leave to dry.
2. Paint on patterns in the colour or colours of your choice. Leave to dry.
3. On the thin card, draw two circles (eyes) and cut out. Use a black felt tip pen to draw a pupil on each circle.
4. On one end of the ribbon cut a V shape. This is the tongue of your snake.
5. If using 7 cardboard rolls, cut about 80cm of string. If using fewer cardboard rolls then cut less string, about 10cm less per roll.
6. Thread the string through one cardboard roll and staple in place at the end of the roll – this is the tail of your snake.
7. Thread all but one cardboard roll onto the string.
8. With the remaining cardboard roll, gently press inwards from both sides at one end, to form the snake's mouth.
9. Glue on the eyes to the snake's head and the tongue inside the snake's mouth. Leave to dry.
10. Thread the final cardboard roll (snake's head) onto the string with the other cardboard rolls. Staple into place, allowing a little extra string so the snake can freely move, and trim off the excess string with scissors.
11. Your snake is now ready to slither!



**Fun facts:** the snake is the knocker on the bronze door knocker on the main door of the 17<sup>th</sup> century Cloth Hall, that forms part of West Berkshire Museum. The other part of the door knocker is a lion, which is struck when the snake knocker is used.

**We have snakes in the UK, including the grass snake, which is very shy of humans, but is a great hunter of frogs, toads and other small creatures. Our only venomous snake, the adder, is also shy. It spends most of its time in woodlands and likes nothing better than to sunbathe. It swallows its prey whole.**