

CHINESE NEW YEAR DRUMS

Number of participants: unlimited

Duration: 5 to 15 min

Age Restrictions: none

This craft re-creates a traditional Chinese instrument called the *Bolang Gu*, or pellet drum. This instrument is used in Chinese ritual music and as a children's toy. The pellet drum is double sided with two heads (front and back) and two pellets connected to the sides. It is played by turning the stick between two hands such that the two pellets swing back

Space Requirements:

Craft Table

Supplies:

Paper plates

Scissors

Paint/crayons/ pencil crayons

Tape

Dowels

Staples

String

Hole punch

Bells

Activity Instructions

1. To do this craft, you will need two paper plates. Feel free to decorate the bottoms of the plate.
2. Tape a wooden dowel to the inside of one of the plates.
3. Make the pellets by tying bells to a string. Make holes in sides of the plates. Then attach the string to the sides of their plates.
4. Then use a stapler to attach the second plate on top. Made sure to staple where the pellet strings were attached to help secure them in place.
5. This is how you hold the stick to turn the drum. By rubbing the stick back and forth in your hands, the pellets will swing, hitting the drum faces.