

Fishy Piñata

For the piñata, you will need

- Newspaper
- Inflated balloon
- Thick cardboard
- Coloured crepe paper
- Pin
- Thin coloured card
- White and green paint
- Paintbrush
- White glue (such as PVA)
- Scissors
- String
- Papier-mache paste (see papier-mache recipe)

For the papier-mache paste, you will need

- Plain flour
- Water
- White glue
- Salt
- Large bowl
- Whisk
- One teaspoon
- One cup

How to Make Papier-Mache Paste

Method:

1. Add 1 cup of flour, $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups of water and $\frac{1}{3}$ cup of white glue to the bowl. Add a teaspoon of salt to help stop mould from forming.
2. Whisk everything in the bowl until the paste is smooth. Add a little more water if you need to. Cover the bowl until you are ready to use it.

How to Make the Fishy Piñata

Method:

1. Tear a newspaper into squares of about 3cm. Have the children dip each piece of paper into mache paste and smooth onto the balloon until it is covered. Leave it to dry for up to five hours. Add three layers, leaving each layer to dry before adding the next.
2. Cut some fins, lips and a tail from thick cardboard. Again, ask the children to cover each piece in a layer of papier-mache and leave it to dry.
3. If the children feel comfortable, have them pop the balloon with the pin. Attach the top fin, tail and lips by covering the join with three layers of papier-mache. Let each layer dry before adding the next.
4. Then, have the children paint the whole fish white and leave to dry. Use watered down white glue to apply a layer of crepe paper over the fins, tail and face of the fish. Leave to dry.
5. Help the children glue on strips of crepe paper in stripes along the body. Paint the lips. Cut out card circles for the eyes and attach. Glue the side fins into position.
6. Cut a slit along the side of the top fin. Then fill the piñata with confetti or something sweet the children might like in their piñata. Add some string to the top fin and hang the piñata from the ceiling.

