

Virtual International Festival

Egg Maraca

The maraca originated in Puerto Rico. The Native people of Puerto Rico, the Taino tribe, first made them from a small tree called the "higuera". This tree produces a fruit with a hard shell. They made a small hole in the shell to extract the pulp and after letting it dry, they would fill it with seeds or pebbles.

A wood stick is normally placed through the core of the maracas as a handle for them. It also serves to not interfere with the sound of its core. Nowadays, maracas are tied together with a string between the two wooden sticks. The main purpose of this is to keep them together and not lose one of the pair. The music instrument has spread throughout the culture of Central and South America.

Egg Maraca: These DIY Maracas are such a fun and easy craft for the kids! The Maracas are simple but allow enough creativity that a wide age range can enjoy making them, and use supplies that you probably have laying around the house.



Supplies

- Plastic Eggs
- Plastic Spoons
- Washi Tape or Duct Tape
- Popcorn Kernels, rice or anything to fill the eggs that will shake!

Directions

1. Fill your eggs with popcorn kernels.
2. Place a plastic spoon on each side of the egg.
3. Wrap decorative tape around the spoon and egg. You can cover the whole egg with the tape or just enough for it to be secure.
4. Shake, shake, shake!

If you don't have Washi tape, you can find an entire assortment at Walmart or a craft store, but colorful Duct tape works just as well for this craft. (Also, Washi tape addiction is a real thing! I may or may not have a slightly embarrassing amount but it's all just so cute and I know I'll use it eventually!)

We used popcorn kernels as the noisemaker inside the egg but feel free to get creative here. Rice is also another option, along with dried beans or anything else you may have laying around. Different things create different sounds so it's also fun to experiment and test different things here.

The kids really enjoyed the entire process of making these, from picking out the color of their egg to the decorative tape to adding the popcorn kernels and even put on a little concert after to show off their new instruments.