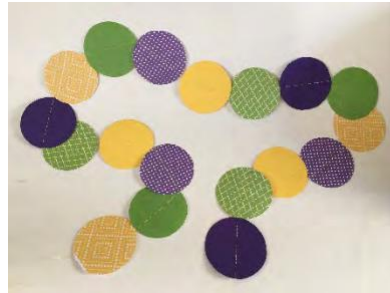


Mardi Gras Crafts

Mardi Gras Garland

Materials:

Scrapbook paper
Circles to trace
Glue stick
Scissors
Thread
Sewing machine

**Directions:**

Trace your circles with a pencil and cut them out. Use the glue stick to put two pieces together and let dry completely. Put your circles in the order and length you'd like. One by one, slowly feed them into your sewing machine, leaving a tail of thread at each end to use to hang the garland.

Mardi Gras Door Hanger

Materials:

5 large craft sticks
Paint (purple, green, white, gold)
Hot glue
String or ribbon



Directions:

Paint 3 craft sticks green and 2 craft sticks purple. Let dry. Use hot glue gun to glue the sticks together, alternating colors. Paint “Happy Mardi Gras” using white and gold paint. Attach ribbon or string to back for hanging.

Beaded Candle Holder**Materials:**

Mardi Gras beads
Hot glue gun and glue sticks
Empty jar or glass
Scissors
Wax paper and newspaper for your work space
Tea light or small candle

**Directions:**

Snip several strands of beads apart so they are no longer circular necklaces but long strings. Heat up your hot glue gun and carefully add a strip of glue to the rim of your glass, working one rotation at a time. When you are closing the first rotation, measure how many more beads you’ll need and trim before closing off the circle. Press down gently on the beads to make sure they have all adhered and the glue has set, and start a new loop below. Continue this process all the way down, preparing and adding new strings of beads as needed. Allow the glue to completely dry, then add a small candle or tea light.

Mardi Gras Bottle Vase**Materials:**

Gold spray paint
Empty wine bottles
Gold, purple, or green sequins
Tacky glue
Paintbrush



Directions:

Wash and peel off any labels from glass bottles. In a well -ventilated area or outdoors, spray paint bottles gold and allow them to dry for at least one hour. Working in sections, apply glue to bottle. Apply a thick layer of glue and smooth with a paintbrush.

Immediately sprinkle a handful of sequins over the glue. Repeat until the area is covered. Use additional glue to fill in empty areas with more sequins if necessary. Repeat with green and purple sequins as desired. Let dry.

Jester Hat**Materials:**

Green, purple, and yellow craft foam
Pencil
Scissors
Glue

**Directions:**

Cut a 3" x 24" rectangle from the yellow foam to form the headband.
Cut three long triangle shapes from the purple foam and three from the green foam. The triangles should be 4" on the short side.

Glue the triangles side by side to the headband, alternating purple and green.
Cut six small yellow circles and glue to the top of the triangles.
Cut six purple or green stars (or other fun shapes). Glue to yellow headband.

Party Popper

Materials:

Colored Tissue Paper (purple, green, and gold)
Toilet Paper Roll
Tape
Curling Ribbon
Small Candies and/or Gifts
Scissors



Directions:

Start out by cutting 1 to 3 pieces of tissue paper into 12" x 12" squares. Use at least two pieces of tissue paper to make the party popper a little stronger. Lay the squares of tissue paper on top of each other and then lay the toilet paper roll centered along one edge of the tissue paper. Tape the edge of the tissue paper onto the side of the toilet paper roll. Roll the toilet paper roll in the tissue paper tightly and secure the other end with tape.

Cut 2 pieces of curling ribbon. Pinch the tissue paper together on one end of the toilet paper roll and tie it with the ribbon as close to the toilet paper roll as you can. Fill the inside of the toilet paper roll with candy and/or small gifts. Once it is full, pinch and tie the open end of the tissue paper like you did the first end.

Handprint Mardi Gras Mask

Materials:

Colorful tag board
Glue
Markers
Embellishments, such as beads, sequins or feathers



Directions:

Trace each person's hands on tag board. Cut each hand out and make holes in the palms for eyes. Decorate the hands around the eye holes with the embellishments. Place a dab of glue on the palms and glue them together to create a mask. Add glue to the craft stick and attach the mask. The stick will act as a handle for the mask.

Throw-Me Beads**Materials:**

Cardboard
Pencil
Ruler
Old color magazines
Scissors
Toothpick
Glue
Small paintbrush
Clear varnish or nail polish
Embroidery thread and needle

**Directions:**

Make a cardboard template of a triangle that has two long sides that are 5" long and a shorter side that is 1" long. Use the template to trace and cut triangles from old magazine pages. To make a bead, take a triangle, wrong side up, and roll the wider end around a toothpick. Work carefully and continue to roll, making sure the bead builds up evenly. Keep rolling the paper tightly until the last two inches. Brush the wrong side of the two inches with glue and roll it up.

Let the bead dry on the toothpick. When the glue is dry, give your beads a coat of clear varnish or nail polish to protect them and make them hard.

When dry, remove the toothpick. Thread the beads on embroidery thread to make necklaces, bracelets, and anklets.

Castanets

Materials:

Paper plate
Paints (purple, green, and gold)
Lids from plastic milk/juice bottles
Strong glue



Directions:

Paint the back of the paper plate and let it dry. Fold the plate in half (with the paint to the outside) and, with strong glue, stick the milk bottle lids along the inside edge of the plate. When the glue is dry, play your castanet by holding it between your thumb and fingers and clicking together.

Shoebbox Float

Materials:

A cardboard shoebox
Colorful construction paper, foil, or gift wrap
Scissors
Glue
Paint or markers
Assorted small toys, dolls, beads, ribbon, flowers, glitter, etc.



Directions:

Turn the shoebox upside-down; this will be the base of the float. Attach the lid of the shoebox to the end of the upside-down box (this will be the backdrop for the float). Glue, staple or tape the lid in place. Decorate the float! Arrange the dolls and other items on your float. Glue them in place.

Mardi Gras Bead Bangles

Materials:

- Zip ties
- Scissors
- Clear tape
- Mardi Gras beads
- Ribbon
- Glue



Directions:

Trim zip ties to about 9". Overlap the ends and secure with tape. Cut beads to the length of the bangle. Cut a length of ribbon about 40" long. Use ribbon to tie beads to bangle. Single knot between two beads about 4 beads from the end. Wrap the ribbon around the bangle, going between each bead. Tie a knot when you get to end. Trim excess ribbon. Dab a small amount of glue to the trimmed edge of the ribbon to prevent fraying.

Mardi Gras Noisemaker

Materials:

- Craft Stick
- Glue
- Cardboard
- Markers or Paint
- 7 Buttons
- 7 (8") Lengths of String
- Scissors
- Circle-shaped object (like small bowl)



Directions:

Take a circle object and trace it twice on the cardboard. Cut out the circles. Glue the 2 circles together placing the craft stick in between the 2 circles. Allow part of the craft stick to be outside the circles to form the handle.

Punch holes along the rim of the circles. Attach the buttons to the string and then thread the string through a hole. Tie a knot attaching the buttons to the circles. Decorate the noise maker with Mardi Gras colors.

Mardi Gras Beads Coasters**Materials:**

Mardi Gras beads
Cardboard
Scissors
Glue

**Directions:**

Cut circles from the cardboard to form base for coasters. Find the center of the circle and hot glue the end bead of the string to the center. Add glue to cardboard and continue to glue down the beads in a circular design. Let dry.