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Piñata Making Instructions

Materials:

- Newspaper
- Large Balloon
- White Glue (prefer Elmer's glue)
- Heavy String
- Tape
- Candies/small toys
- Water
- Bowls
- Cardboard
- Glue gun - or - Masking
- Crepe Paper



Instructions:

1. To begin cover your work surface with newspaper or work on a table that you can wipe down.
2. Inflate your balloon. Set the balloon on top of one bowl to hold it while you work.
3. Tear/cut several newspaper pages into 1 inch wide strips that are about 8 inches.
4. Mix a 1:1 glue/water ratio in another bowl.
5. Dip the newspaper strips into glue/water and remove the excess by running it between 2 of your fingers. Squeeze out as much glue a possible. Lay down a strip vertically on the balloon and continue placing them all in the same direction until the balloon is entirely covered. Do not leave any holes. Cover the area just up to the knot where you tied the balloon but do not cover it. Add a second layer by placing strips horizontally around the balloon so that the strips are perpendicular to the previous ones.
6. Tie a string to the end, where you tied off the balloon and hang it to dry using the string, allow it to dry overnight.
7. Do this 2 more times so that you end up with 6 layers total. Once it is dry, pop the balloon by cutting a small hole in the piñata, popping the balloon with a sharp object, and removing it through the opening you created.
8. Decorate your piñata with strips of crepe paper by cutting fringe along the edge. Cover the bottom with a few strips of crepe paper before adding the fringe. Work from the bottom to the top, overlapping the newly added layer on top of the one on the bottom.
9. Prepare a hanger by taking a 2" by 4" piece of cardboard, and punching 2 holes, before running string through the holes and tying the ends of the string together to form the loop from which it will hang.
10. Cut the hole in the piñata enough to get the hanger inside and secure it to the top using a glue gun or masking tape.
11. Patch the top with additional paper-mache. Tada! Your piñata is finished!

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