CHALLENGE BOX D.I.Y. PINATA

This activity is for Scouts but any section or leaders could take part too!

Scout D.I.Y. Pinata

What you need:

- Balloon
- Newspaper
- 5 Sheets of Coloured Tissue Paper
- String
- ½ Cup Plain Flour
- 3 tbsp Sugar
- Wrapped Sweets
- Saucepan and Wooden Spoon and Cooker Hob



How to do it:

The Pinata will need to dry before you can play the Pinata Game – see the Reflection for more information.

- 1. To make the papier-mâché paste: Mix the flour with 2 cups of cold water in a saucepan and then add 2 cups of boiling water and heat on the hob, stirring, until boiling. Remove from the heat stir in the sugar and leave to cool.
- 2. Sit an inflated balloon in a bowl (for stability), tear the newspaper into 1-inch strips (do not use scissors as the rough edges work better), drag the strips through the paste and wipe off excessive paste.
- 3. Lay the strips onto the balloon. Consecutive strips need to slightly overlap. Continue until the balloon is covered with one layer of strips, leaving a 2-inch square at the top as an opening. Allow the balloon to dry for 24 hours.
- 4. Around the tied-off end of the balloon, wrap and tie off the string to use as a hanger. Keep the string pulled out during successive layering stages. Re-cover the balloon once more with newspaper and paste. Allow to dry.
- 5. Next cut the tissue paper into 2-inch squares. Dot the corners of each tissue paper square with glue and place the squares on the balloon. Glue tissue paper streamers to the balloon.
- 6. Puncture the uncovered part of the balloon at the top of the pinata. If the pinata is completely dry, fill it halfway with candy. Cover the opening with tissue paper squares.

Reflection:

In Mexico at Christmas time, a pinata means gifts. Blindfolded children take turns to swing at the hollow pinata with a stick and continue to take turns. If they pierce the pinata, candy, small dolls, and trinkets shower down.

You can make a pinata and enjoy the sense of celebration and fun of this Mexican delight.

But remember it will take a couple of weeks for the pinata to dry so make it for Christmas!

Safety Notes:

Scissors / Sharp Objects: Supervise young people appropriately when using scissors.

Store all sharp objects securely, out of the reach of young people.

Food / Allergies: Check for allergies before you begin. Make sure you have suitable areas for storing and preparing food and avoid cross contamination of different foods. All activities must be safely managed.



