



Kickin' It

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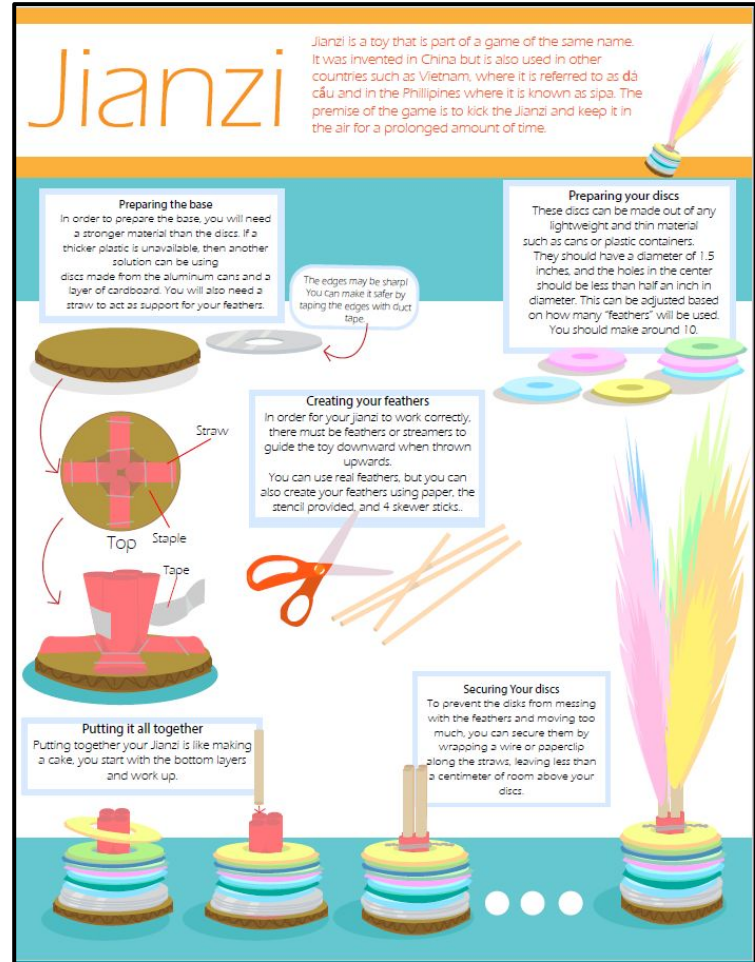
The Problem




Toys are expensive and do not hold children's attention, leading to many plastic toys being discarded.

The Solution

An instruction manual that teaches kids how to make their own toys



Process

- 
1. Sprint 1:
 - What do kids like in a toy?
 2. Sprint 2:
 - How to best deliver information to kids?
 3. Future Sprint
 - What toy best maintains interest?

Sprint 1

Test 1

We went to the Natick Mall and tried to talk to parents and their kids...

It did **not go over well.**

Test 1.5

We went to the Wellesley Public Library and talked with parents and their kids...

It was pretty good.

Sprint 2: AB Testing

Jianzi

Jianzi is a toy that is part of a game of the same name. It was invented in China but is also used in other countries such as Vietnam, where it is referred to as *đá cầu* and in the Philippines where it is known as *sipa*. The premise of the game is to kick the Jianzi and keep it in the air for a prolonged amount of time.



Name and "Story"

Diagram of instructions

How items should look

Showing final assembly

Preparing the base

In order to prepare the base, you will need a stronger material than the discs. If a thicker plastic is unavailable, then another solution can be using discs made from the aluminum cans and a layer of cardboard. You will also need a straw to act as support for your feathers.

The edges may be sharp. You can make it safer by taping the edges with duct tape.

Preparing your discs

These discs can be made out of any lightweight and thin material such as cans or plastic containers. They should have a diameter of 1.5 inches, and the holes in the center should be less than half an inch in diameter. This can be adjusted based on how many "feathers" will be used. You should make around 10.

Creating your feathers

In order for your Jianzi to work correctly, there must be feathers or streamers to guide the toy downward when thrown upwards.

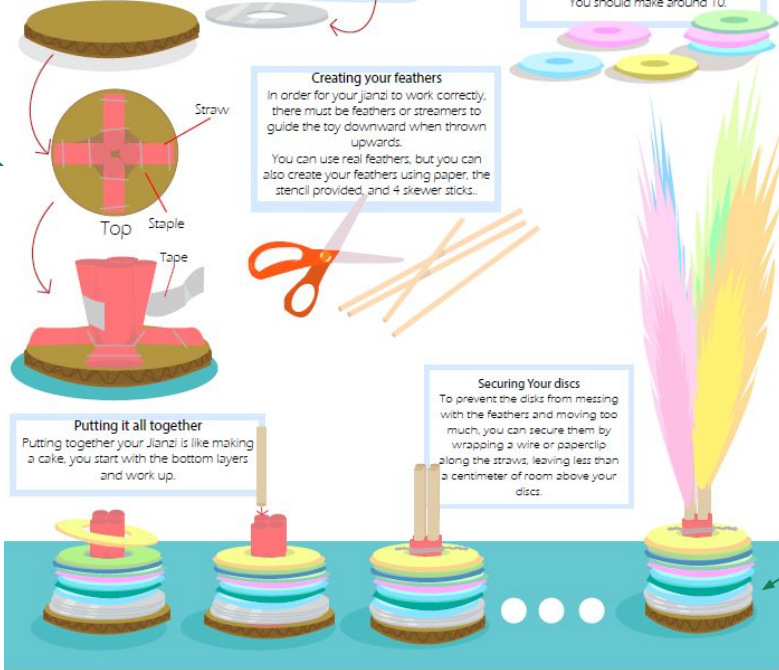
You can use real feathers, but you can also create your feathers using paper, the stencil provided, and 4 skewer sticks.

Securing Your discs

To prevent the discs from messing with the feathers and moving too much, you can secure them by wrapping a wire or paperclip along the straws, leaving less than a centimeter of room above your discs.

Putting it all together

Putting together your Jianzi is like making a cake, you start with the bottom layers and work up.



JIANZI

Kick around a weighted shuttlecock with this simple yet crazy fun toy. Relax by passing it back-and-forth between friends in a leisure activity. Or... engage in a high stakes high rewards winner takes all sport of JIANZI!



* Experiment with the game play!

GAME INSTRUCTIONS

• Try and keep the Jianzi in the air between players for as long as possible without touching the ground.

• You can hit the Jianzi with any body part except for your hands.



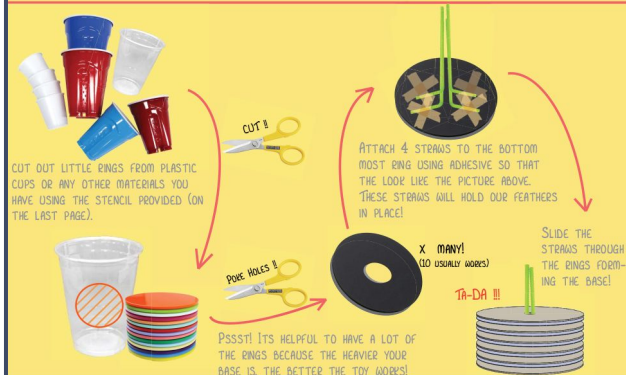
MATERIALS

*** THESE ARE SUGGESTED, BUT BE CREATIVE AND USE OTHER MATERIALS IF YOU DON'T HAVE THESE!!!



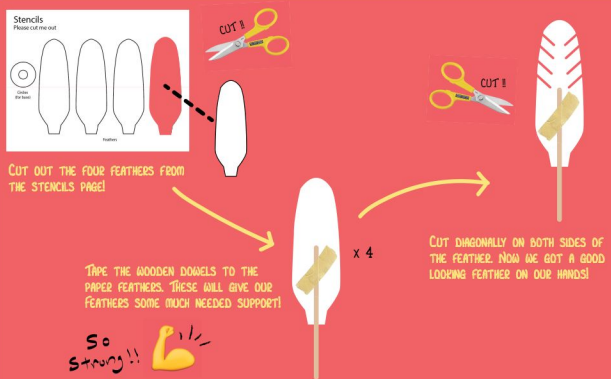
1. MAKING THE BASE

* LOOK AT THE LAST PAGE FOR STENCILS

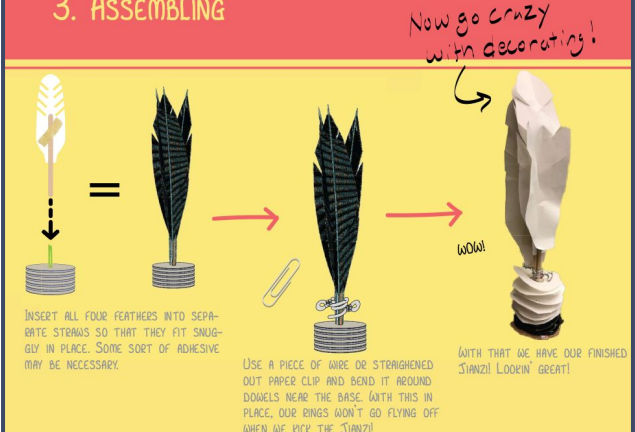


2. THE FEATHERS

* IF YOU HAVE NORMAL FEATHERS SKIP THIS STEP!

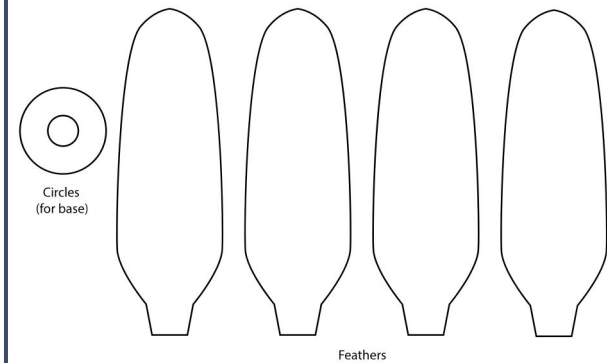


3. ASSEMBLING



Stencils

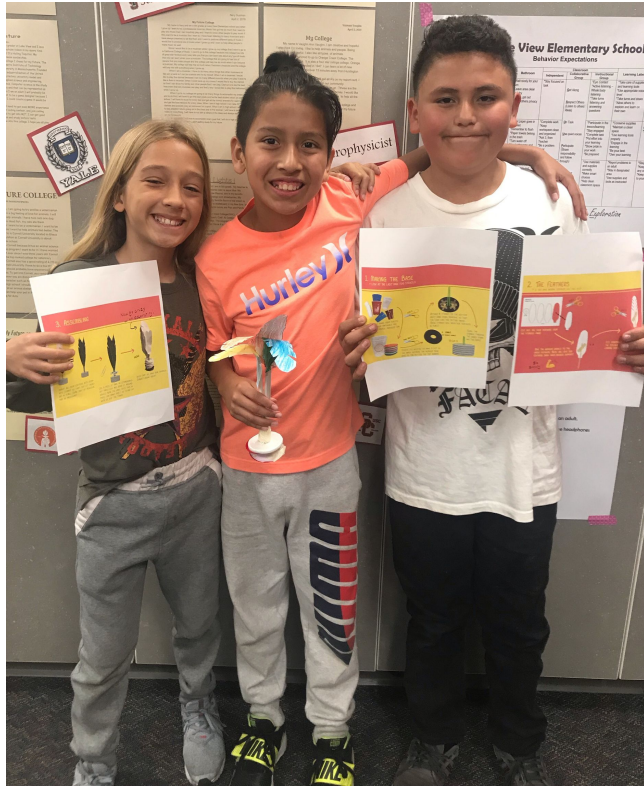
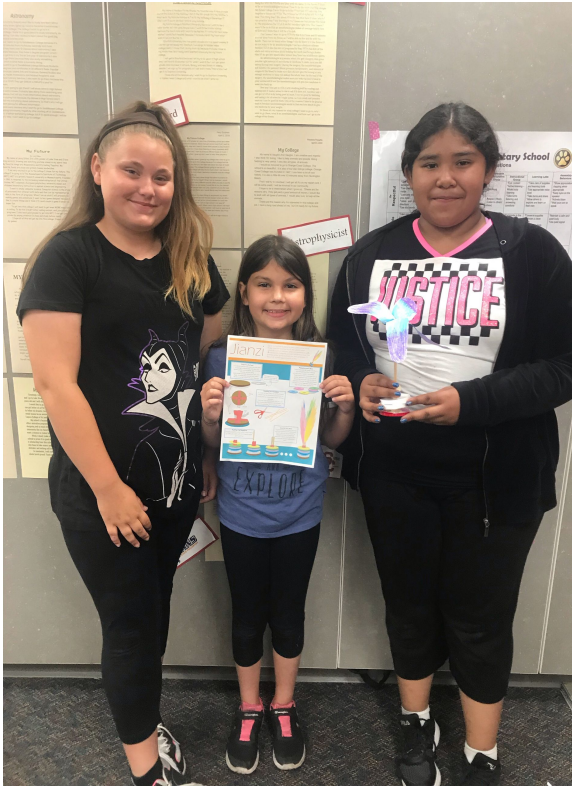
Please cut me out



Test 2

We held a workshop with 3rd graders...

It was **GREAT!**



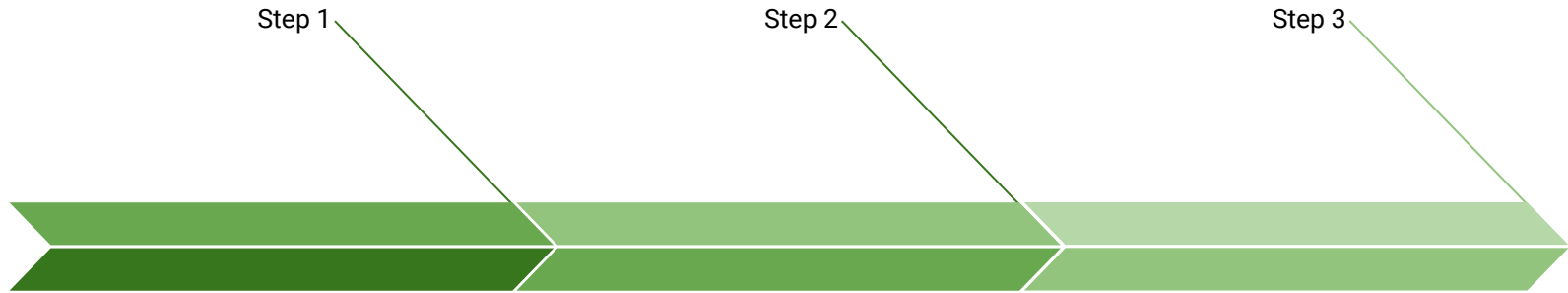
*“We’re having fun but it’s tiring and painful.”
– One of the children*

What We Learned

Toy building guide must be...

- ① **Concise**
- ② **Clearly explain steps**
- ③ **Aesthetic**

Future Plans



Investigate Longevity

Find out if building a toy yourself ensures long-lasting engagement.

More Toy Manuals

Make manuals for different toys as well and combine them into a small book.

YouTube Video

Make a video version of the toy manual and publish it on YouTube.