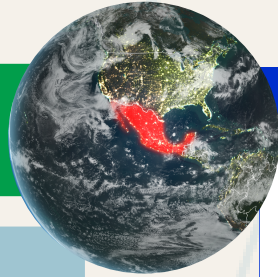


## Balero Toy



*This traditional toy comes from Mexico and consists of a wooden stick handle and a colourful wooden barrel. The toy's aim is to catch the barrel on the stick but a variety of tricks can also be performed. The Balero toy was very popular in the 20th century but is still played across South America today.*

## Global Links

*Balero toys have a long history, with archaeological evidence showing they existed in Mayan cities. It is a popular game in Spanish speaking countries, named differently in each country.*

*String and ball games exist in many cultures. A similar game, Bilboquet, was played in Europe by noblemen and commoners in the 1500s and in England in the early 19th century in sitting rooms and parlours by women and children. Japan has a similar toy called Kendama - or sword ball.*

*This style of toy has made a modern day reemergence in Germany, renamed the Ticayo toy.*



## Vocabulary

Toy (n)



Juguete

To Play (v)



Jugar

To Catch (v)



Atrapar

Curriculum Links

Art and Physical Education



## Art and crafts

### Balero



Scissors and/or a craft knife



String piece  
30–40cm long



Permanent markers



1 nail



Additional bottle lids



Coloured tape



1.5L or 2L clear plastic bottle



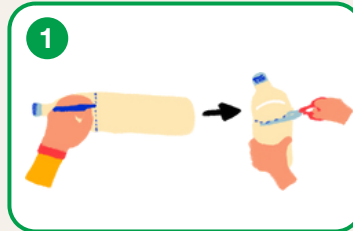
Pliers

### Explore!

Check out these tricks you can do with a Balero toy (video shows German Ticayo toy). Try these tricks or make up your own to show and teach others!



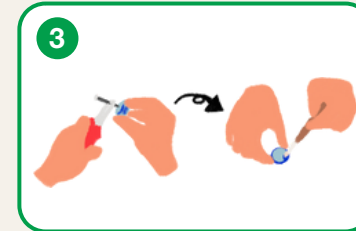
## Method



Place the clear plastic bottle sideways, mark approx one third down between the bottle top and base. Cut the bottle here so you end up with a funnel and handle



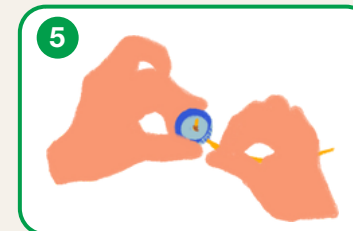
Using colourful permanent markers, decorate the clear plastic with your own designs



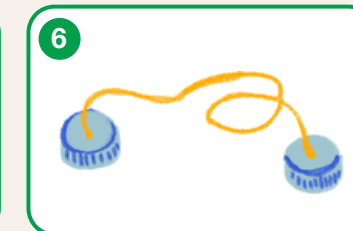
Take off the bottle lid and using the nail held by the pliers, make a hole in the middle. Then paint or colour over any branding on the lid



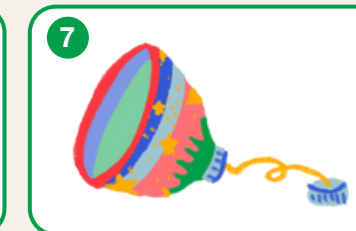
Hold the funnel downwards, tape the coloured tap around the full edge of the bottle



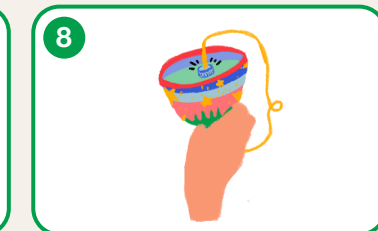
Take the lid and thread the string through the hole. Tie a double knot so it holds in place



Take a second bottle lid and create a hole in its middle, thread the other end of the string through, holding it in place with a double knot



Screw one of the bottle lids onto the funnel end of the bottle



Explore playing with the toy by throwing the hanging lid into the air and catching it in the funnel!

### Balero video:



Share your activity images with us!

Tag us on social media

@MegGlobalEd