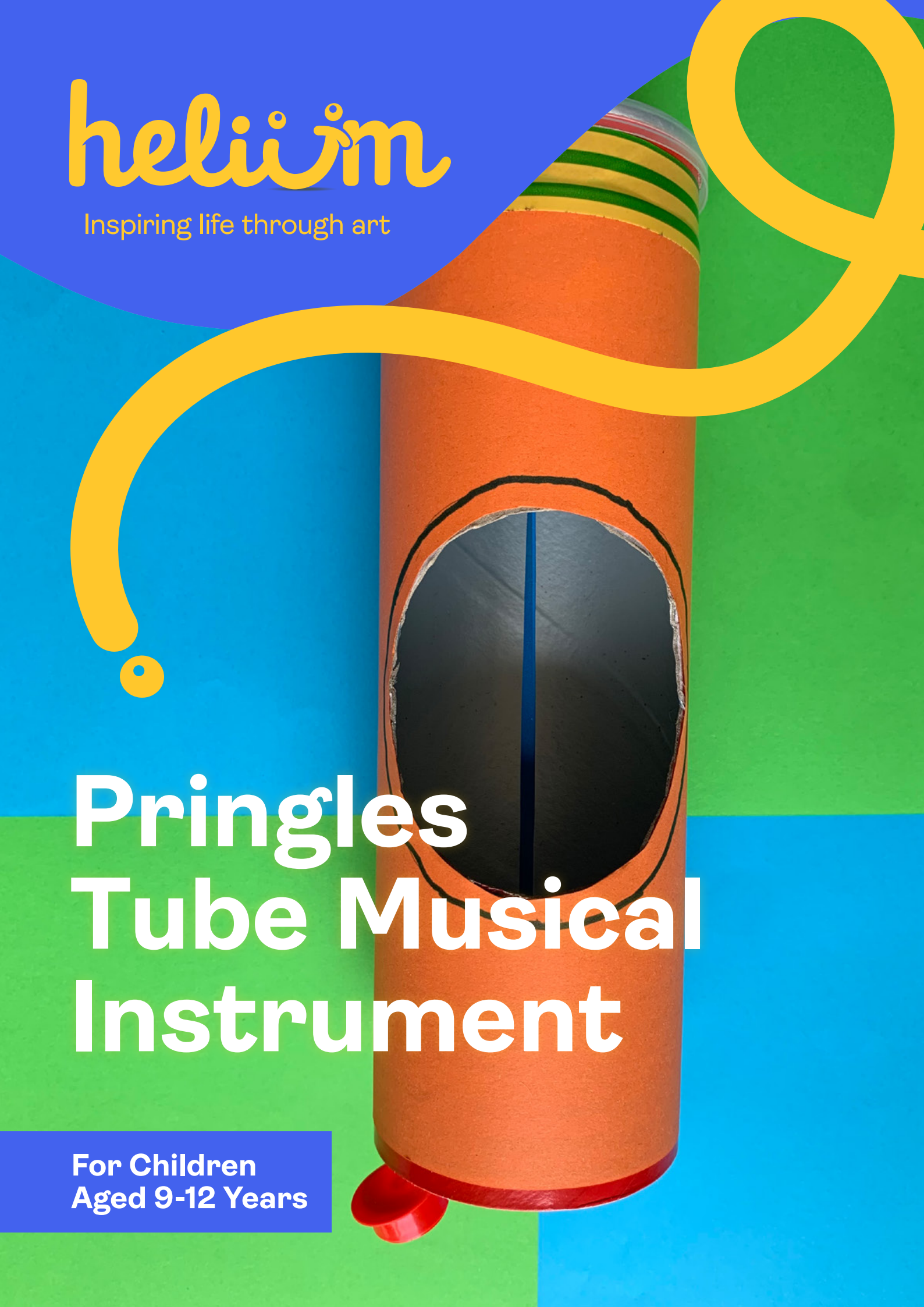


The background is a vibrant collage of blue, green, and yellow. A large, stylized yellow question mark is positioned on the left side. A Pringles tube, repurposed as a musical instrument, is the central focus. It is orange with a large circular hole in the middle, revealing a dark interior with a blue vertical line. The tube has a red cap at the bottom and a yellow and green striped cap at the top. The word 'helium' is written in a yellow, cursive font at the top left.

helium

Inspiring life through art

Pringles Tube Musical Instrument

For Children
Aged 9-12 Years



Overview

Activity

Build a string instrument from recycled materials.

Description

Learn how to make a real string instrument from a rubber band and a recycled Pringles tube.

Materials

- Empty Pringles tube
- Scissors
- Rubber band
- Marker
- Washing up liquid cap
- Optional coloured tape, coloured card /paper to decorate



Introduction

Welcome creative friends, to another fun, online activity. Today you will make real musical instruments from a recycled Pringles tube with which you can create your own tunes. String instruments, also known as chordophones, are musical instruments that produce sound by vibrating strings. These vibrations are typically amplified by a resonating body (the pringles can!). This project is made from nearly all recycled materials and transforms them into something we can play and experiment making different sounds with. Let's get started on this fun, creative project so we can make some noise!

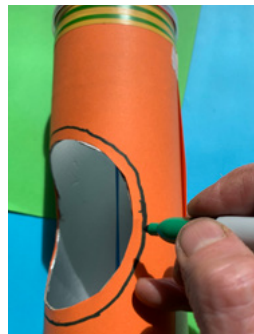


Instructions

1. Trace the plastic lid of the tube to draw a circle shape on the outside of the tube.
2. Use scissors to cut out the circle shape and to poke a hole in the center of the bottom of the tube and also in the center of the plastic tube cover.

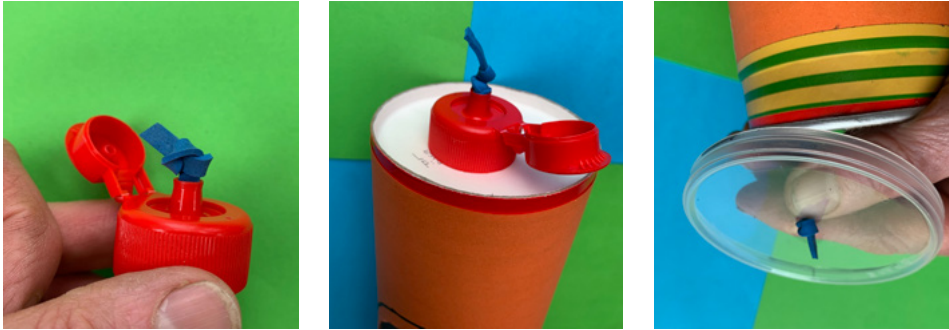


3. Cut your rubber band with scissors, be sure that when stretched, it is as long as the tube.
4. If you want to, now is a good time to decorate the outside of your tube instrument using colour paper or card and tape.



5. Thread the rubber band through the hole in the washing up liquid cap, tie a knot at the end of the rubber band to lock it in place.
6. Thread the rubber band thru the hole on the bottom of the tube and pull on the band so the washing up cap sits against the outside of the tube

7. Thread the rubber band thru the tube and out hole on the top plastic lid.



8. Carefully pull on the rubber band to make it tight. To play the instrument it is easiest to place the bottom of tube against your tummy and strum the string with one finger, you will find that you can change the note of the instrument when you pull the top of the rubber band making it tighter.

9. Try to play a song you know or just make one up! Experiment with how many different tones you can get from your instrument.

10. Ask a parent or guardian to photograph of you and your instrument and email it to ondemand@helium.ie

