

Raven Hill Discovery Center is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt corporation.

Mission: Raven Hill provides a place that enhances hands-on and lifelong learning for all ages by connecting science, history & the arts.

Button in a cup

Pioneer children didn't have computers and I-pads and televisions. In fact, most of their toys were made of wood and other available materials. You will need a stick, tape, scissors, string, button, bead or washer, a plate and a cone cut from a piece of paper—light cardboard or card stock works best. You can also use a single section from an egg carton. The stick needs to be about 14 to 18 inches long, as straight as possible and about the size around of a pencil or a little bigger. Once you find the stick, you can decorate it, if you feel artistically inclined! Turn a plate upside down on the paper or cardboard. Draw a half circle and cut it out. Make a cone from the half circle by overlapping the paper into a cone. Use tape to keep the cone from unwrapping. Decorate the paper cone, if you want. Leave a small hole open in the bottom of the cone. Carefully, push the stick through the hole and use the tape to secure the stick to the inside of the cone. Cut a piece of string about 24 inches long. Tie the button or bead at one end of the string. Tie the other end of the string to the stick directly under the cup. To play: hold the stick with the cup upright. Swing the string out and try to get the button or bead to land in the cup. This simple toy is easy to make and fun to play with. It's a good way to practice your hand-eye coordination. A real toy like this would have a wooden "cup" on the stick and a wooden ball instead of a button or bead. The toy was first created in the 14th century. The longer the string, the harder the game.



1 Supplies



2 Cut half circle



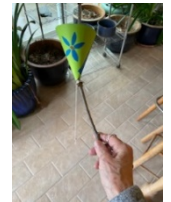
3 Form cone, add stick



4 Tape stick inside cone



5 Add string & button



6 Play!