

# George Washington Carver Peanut Puppet

## Supplies:

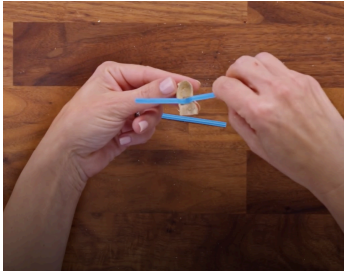
- 1 cup large, in-shell peanuts
- Twist ties
- Yarn
- Googly eyes
- Hot glue gun and glue
- Scissors
- Markers
- Craft sticks



## Steps:

	<p>Step 1: Hold the peanut and carefully split it in half lengthwise, vertically.</p>
	<p>Step 2: Using scissors, cut the peanut shells in half across the widest part, near the bottom. Set aside the large portion of the peanut shell halves.</p>
	<p>Step 3: Using scissors, cut one of the twist ties in half. Set one of the halves to the side.</p>
	<p>Step 4: Center a twist tie piece over the peanut shell half to create the arms. Firmly press down on the twist tie to make an indent (in the shape of a U) in the center.</p>





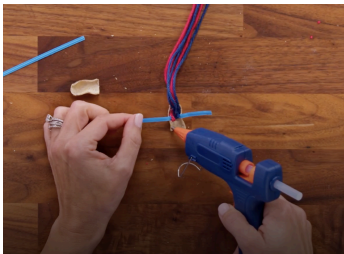
Step 5: Put a dot of glue in the center of the inside of the peanut shell half. Carefully place the twist tie's U-shaped indent onto the dot of hot glue. Set aside to dry.



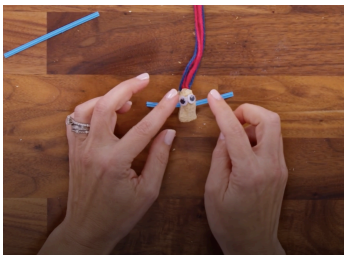
Step 6: Using the scissors, cut six equal strands of yarn to use as the hair. The pieces can be anywhere from two to five inches long.



Step 7: Put glue above the twist tie on the top inside of the peanut shell half. Firmly press the ends of the yarn hair down onto the hot glue. Be careful not to burn your fingers.



Step 8: Glue the other peanut shell half on top to make it whole again.



Step 9: Glue on googly eyes.





Step 10: Use a marker to draw a small smile directly below the googly eyes.



Step 13: If the puppets don't fit on your fingers, use the glue gun to attach the craft stick to the inside of the peanut puppet. Ta-dah! You've made your puppets! Repeat steps 1-10 to create more peanut puppets if you'd like!

### Who was George Washington Carver?

George Washington Carver was a remarkable man born into slavery around 1864. He loved learning and grew up to be a leader who changed the farming industry. He is best known for his work with peanuts. He taught people how to grow and use peanuts to make shaving cream, shampoo, wood stains, plastics, and more. George Washington Carver was a great American innovator.

### Fun Facts:

- As a child, George had a deep love for nature. Historians say that he even had a secret garden where he studied and cared for plants. Local farmers called George “the plant doctor.” He became a student at Iowa State Agricultural College and was determined to do big things.
- In 1896, Carver became the head of the Agricultural Department at Tuskegee Institute. His research helped farmers learn how to grow different crops, like peanuts and sweet potatoes. He also taught farmers how to keep the soil healthy so that they could grow more crops.
- Carver changed America’s farming industry forever. Peanuts became one of the six leading crops in the United States over the next fifty years, thanks to Carver. This helped the South move away from growing so much cotton that ruined the soil.