

American Baseball Piñata

Supplies:

- 1 balloon
- Liquid school glue
- 1 cup water
- A bowl
- A plastic spoon
- Thick paper plates or a work mat
- Newspaper cut into strips
- White paper cut into strips
- White tape
- Red permanent marker
- Wrapped candy
- Yarn



Steps:

	<p>Step 1: Blow up the balloon to the size of a softball. Tie the end in a knot. Set the balloon aside.</p>
	<p>Step 2: Pour about $\frac{3}{4}$ cup of glue and $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of water into the bowl. (You will need three parts glue to one part water.)</p>
	<p>Step 3: Mix the glue and water together.</p>





Step 4: Dip each newspaper strip into the glue mixture, ensuring it's fully coated. Carefully layer the strips onto the balloon, overlapping slightly as you go, until the entire balloon is covered, leaving a small uncovered area around the knot.



Step 5: Set the balloon aside to dry.



Step 6: Using the white paper strips, dip one by one into the glue mixture and layer on top of the dried newspaper strips until the balloon is fully covered. Leave a small uncovered spot by the balloon knot. Place the covered balloon in a safe place to dry for 24 hours.



Step 7: The next day, use the scissors to cut the balloon to release the air. Pull the deflated balloon out and throw it away.



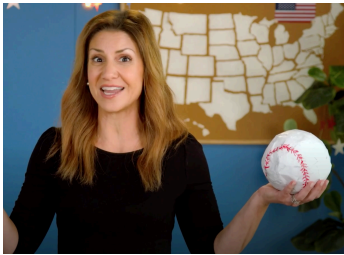
Step 8: Fill the baseball piñata with wrapped candy.



Step 9: Use a piece of white tape to cover the opening.



Step 10: Using the red marker, draw a curved “c” shaped line on the left and right side of the baseball connecting the lines in the middle of the ball. Add the stitching by drawing tiny “v” shapes on the curved lines.



Step 11: Enjoy playing with your new baseball piñata.

Why is baseball America’s national pastime?

Baseball is known as America’s national pastime because baseball has a very special place in American history and has helped to shape our nation. A pastime is an activity that someone does often for enjoyment, like a hobby.

Fun Facts:

- Stick and ball games have existed throughout history worldwide. In the 1800s, the Knickerbocker Base Ball Club created new rules for the game, which many people believe became the laws of baseball.
- Baseball has been a part of America’s wartime history. During the Civil War, soldiers would play baseball in between battles. During WWI and WWII, hundreds of Major League Baseball players served in the military.
- The New York Yankees hold the record for the most World Series titles, with 27 victories. The St. Louis Cardinals rank second with 11 wins, while the Boston Red Sox and Oakland Athletics are tied for third place with nine championships each.