

How to Make the Fantasy Frog Pickup Game

(This is a handmade version of the “Barrel of Monkey” game)

Materials:

- Cardboard cereal boxes (1-2) or pieces of cardboard with similar thickness
- Hot glue with hot glue gun
- Elmer’s glue
- Markers and/or crayons
- Pieces of clear flexible plastic, such as report covers
- One round pen
- White paper (recycled/re-used)
- Optional: One empty decorated box or jar to hold the finished frogs

Directions:

- Select the design you would like to use to make the “frogs.”
- See the photo below. You can choose a frog, plane, octopus or ladybug. – or even draw your own design – provided that the design has certain dimensions. It should be approximately 3” from top to bottom with a 1¼”-wide body and 2”-long arms that extend out from each side of the body.
- Draw your pattern onto the cereal box cardboard. Cut out your pattern from the cardboard. (While the rest of these directions will refer to “frogs,” the directions would be the same for whichever design you decide to use.)
- If your cardboard has ink/advertising on one side and you’d like to cover it up, use Elmer’s glue to glue the recycled printer/copier paper (used side down) to the printed side of the cereal box cardboard. Allow time for this to dry. Or, you can use the cereal box cardboard as is.
- Trace at least 10 (or more) “frogs” on the plain or paper-covered cereal box cardboard.
- Consider coloring your frogs with markers or crayons.
- Following the shape of your pattern, cut two clear pieces of plastic for each frog arm. Starting with the left frog arm, wrap the end of the arm around the pen body so that the cardboard curls towards the front of the frog. Only the end of the frog’s arm should curl. (See the photo below.) Run a line of hot glue along the back of this arm and press your cutout plastic piece to the arm. While the hot glue is still warm, roll the arm around the pen again so that the curl is in the front. Hold the end of the arm around the pen for about 20-30 seconds so that the glue sets up.
- The procedure is similar for the right arm, though the curl at the end of the arm will be towards the back of the frog and the clear plastic will be hot glued to the front of the arm. (Don’t worry if gluing on the plastic is messy the first time you try it. You can trim off excess glue that oozes out; it gets easier with practice.)
- Continue hot gluing the clear plastic to the other arms of all of the frogs. Once all of the frogs have dried, they are finished and ready for play.
- To learn how to play the **Fantasy Frog Pickup Game**, use the same directions for the “Barrel of Monkeys” game, which can be found at the link below.

How to Play Barrel of Monkeys

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