



Festive Confetti Poppers!

Supplies:

- Toilet paper or paper towel tubes
- A couple balloons
- Scissors, tape
- Wrapping paper or construction paper for decorating, stickers, markers (optional)
- Dried crushed leaves or birdseed (that's the confetti!)



How-to:

If you're using a paper towel tube, cut it to a length of about 5 to 6 inches long. Wrap your tube in paper to increase festivity factor.

Cut off the end of the balloon about half an inch from the top. Pull that end over the end of the toilet paper tube. Tape that in place. Tie a knot in the other end of the balloon.



Put a small handful of your confetti in the tube. Hold the tube upright, pull down on the bottom of the balloon, and...let it go!

What's Happening?!

When you pull the balloon down, you are increasing its potential elastic energy. Let go, and you'll see its potential energy change into kinetic energy, meaning the balloon moves upward. Finally, the balloon transfers its kinetic energy to the confetti, which flies up out of the tube! How would you transfer less energy to the confetti? How about more?