Think, play, and create at home! This activity invites families to explore themes from the Arts Initiative’s 2018 Practicing Joy program, including “joy as resistance”.

Can you think of something to celebrate? Who would you like to share the fun with?
Family Activity Celebrations

Collect Materials

Are you ready to let your colors fly? Let’s get started by gathering some art-making supplies.

Tip: Coffee cups and paper towel rolls are perfect cylinders! If you don’t have a balloon, try a stretchy material like hosiery.

Play and Create

Build your popper (ask a grown up for help): Tie a knot in a stretchy deflated balloon. Cut off the rounded tip of the balloon. Cut out the bottom of your paper cup. (No cutting is needed for paper rolls). Tape the knotted balloon around the bottom of the paper cylinder. Pull the balloon taught like a drum, with the knot pointing away from the cup or roll.

Make your confetti: Find old magazines and turn them into tiny bits of paper by tearing the pages. See if you can find colors that match the rainbow: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet too!

Use your popper: Place confetti into your popper, pull the knot, and let go!

Materials

- paper cylinder
- balloon
- scissors
- tape
- old magazines
- postcard and stamp

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Family Activity  Celebrations

Reflect
Share the fun by drawing your celebration on a postcard and sending it to someone you love. What does your confetti look like on the floor? In the air? What does it sound like when you use your popper? On one side of the card, draw what you see and hear. On the other side of the card write a message. Remember to leave room for a grown-up to write the address and put a stamp on your card before bringing it to the mailbox. Don’t forget to clean up your confetti so you can celebrate again!

Fieldnote
Even when it doesn’t seem like a joyful time, celebrating who and what we love is a creative way to lift spirits and make memories. Enjoy this immersion of color, movement, and sound while inventing new ways to party with your friends and family. Sharing and surprising can be as much fun as building and popping, so send as many postcards as you’d like!

Practicing Joy Resources

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