

Bring It Home: Create Your Own Guiro

Extend the culture and traditions of Puerto Rico to your home

The *güiro* (gwee-ro) is a scraping instrument made from an open-ended, hollow gourd. It's played in many forms of Latin music. Some say it was created by the indigenous Taino Indians, natives of the island of Puerto Rico. The Taino Indians made their güiro's from the nut of a marimba tree. By using recycled materials, you too can create your own *güiro*!

Materials:

Plastic bottle with ridges
12 inch dowel rod
Permanent markers

Get Started:

1. Decorate your bottle with permanent markers.
2. When complete, scrape your dowel rod along the side of the bottle.
3. Create a fun rhythm!

Resources for learning more about Puerto Rico:

Fiction (not true)

Juan Bobo Goes to Work, By Marisa Montes & Joe Cepeda

The Legend of the Hummingbird: A Tale from Puerto Rico (Mondo Folktales), By Michael Ramirez & Margaret Sanfilippo

The Golden Flower: A Taino Myth from Puerto Rico, By Nina Jaffe & Enrique Sanchez

The Song of El Coqui and Other Tales of Puerto Rico, By Nicholasa Mohr & Antonio Martorell

Non-fiction (true)

Natural Puerto Rico / Puerto Rico Natural, By Alfonso Lee

Puerto Rico (Hello U.S.A.), By Joyce Johnston

Puerto Rico: The People and Culture (Lands, Peoples & Cultures),
By Erinn Banting

Puerto Rico in Pictures (Visual Geography Series), By Lerner Pub

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