

Instrument Creation Stations:

Ugly Stick

Materials:

A stick – about 4 feet long – probably best if it is hardwood

NB: broom handles, old wooden hockey sticks, can work – but need to be drilled first it seems, and then brute strength. A piece of dowelling can be OK but costs money. A decent stick (maple or oak) from the woods (dry though) would be best perhaps.

Boot – rubber boots probably are the traditional boot, but anything will do.

Wig – hair-pieces,

Beer caps – crown caps (scrounge at pubs, or can be purchased in a beer supply store)

Tin can

Screws

Start with the stick. Sand off any rough bits or potential causes of splinters.

Attach a boot to one end – so your ugly stick will stand up.

You'll likely need to use the longest screws.

You might want to attach a tin can to the stick – middle or top...

Then – the beer caps – for a better eventual sound, remove the plastic insert in the top of the beer cap (these will be in the twist off variety, but possibly not in traditional crown caps. It can be a drag to remove these, so you decide.)

Punch holes through each beer cap – then put 3-5 caps on a screw, then attach the screw to the stick. – You can do this a few times – you decide how much 'rattle' your stick needs.

Add a wig or a mask, – and/or create a set of cymbals to attach to the top of your stick.

You'll need a short stick or mallet with which to play your ugly stick. Tap, rap, stomp, etc.

When you move to Newfoundland – you'll be ready for the kitchen party.

