

Brazil

In this Bag:

- 1 sheet yellow construction paper
- 1 sheet green construction paper
- Dried beans
- Paper plate
- Feathers



What you Need at Home:

- Empty paper towel roll
- Paint, markers, or crayons to decorate mask
- Scissors
- Glue



Learn about Brazil and craft with us by following the instructional video on our virtual hub:

<http://www.creativeartsguild.org/events/annual-events/festival1/childrens-hill>



Fun Facts about Brazil:

- Brazil is the largest country in South America.
- The name Brazil comes from a tree named brazilwood.
- It is called Brasil in Portuguese, the official language spoken in Brazil.
- Brazil is the only country in South America that speaks Portuguese.
- Portugal claimed the land of Brazil in the year 1500. Independence was declared in 1822.
- Brazil is the 5th largest country in the world by both land area and population.
- The population in 2012 was around 194 million people.
- The capital city is Brasilia, while the largest city is Sao Paulo.
- Other major cities include Rio de Janeiro, Salvador and Fortaleza.
- In Brazil they drive on the right-hand side of the road.
- Brazil has a large coastline on the eastern side of South America, stretching 7491 kilometers (4655 miles) in length.
- Brazil shares a border with all South American countries except for Chile and Ecuador.
- Brazil covers 3 time zones.
- Brazil has one of the largest economies in the world.
- Brazil is one of the 77 founding members of the United Nations.
- The Amazon River flows through Brazil, it is the 2nd longest river in the world (after the Nile).
- The Amazon River is home to the pink river dolphin
- Around 60% of the Amazon Rainforest is located in Brazil.
- The climate in the majority of Brazil is tropical.
- Brazil is home to a wide range of animals, including armadillo, tapirs, jaguars and pumas.
- Human activities such as logging, mining fishing and agriculture are important to the Brazilian economy but are also a serious threat to Brazil's diverse environment.
- Millions of tourists visit Brazil every year.
- There are around 2500 airports in Brazil.



Brazil

Fun Facts about Brazil (continued)

- Football (soccer) is the most popular sport in Brazil with the national team consistently among the best in the world, winning the World Cup a record 5 times.
- The Amazon rainforest is the largest tropical rainforest in the world, covering over five and a half a million square kilometers (1.4 billion acres).
- Over half of the Amazon rainforest is located in Brazil but it is also located in other South American countries including Peru, Venezuela, Ecuador, Colombia, Guyana, Bolivia, Suriname and French Guiana.
- 10% of the world's known species live in the Amazon rainforest.
- 20% of the world's bird species live in the Amazon rainforest.
- It is home to around 2 and a half million different insect species as well as over 40000 plant species.
- There are also a number of dangerous species living in the Amazon rainforest such as the cougar, jaguar and anaconda.
- While the protection of the Amazon rainforest remains an issue, deforestation rates have been reducing while areas of conserved land have been increasing over the last 10 years.
- In both 2005 and 2010 the Amazon rainforest suffered severe droughts that killed off large amounts of vegetation in the worst affected areas.
- A recent study by climate change experts suggests that a 3 °C rise in world temperatures by the year 2100 would destroy around 75% of the Amazon.

Highlights in Brazilian Arts and Culture:

- Brazilian culture has been influenced greatly by the Portuguese, Indians, Africans, Europeans and settlers from the Middle East and Asia. One of their main contributions can be seen in the beautiful and rich arts & craft markets spread throughout the country.
- Woodcarving, Ceramics (pots and religious figurines), Textiles (particularly lace and woven hammocks), Musical Instruments (especially hand friction drums such as the zabumba, cuica and reco reco, and berimbau used for capoeira)
- Bossa nova is a style of Brazilian music, which was developed and popularized in the 1950s and 1960s and is today one of the best-known Brazilian music styles abroad. The phrase *bossa nova* means literally "new trend" or "new wave". A lyrical fusion of samba and jazz, bossa nova acquired a large following in the 1960s, initially among young musicians and college students.
- Samba dance is recognized around the world as a symbol of Brazil and the Brazilian Carnival. Considered one of the most popular Brazilian cultural expressions, the samba has become an icon of Brazilian national identity.
- The Carnival of Brazil is an annual Brazilian festival held for 5 days between the Friday afternoon before Ash Wednesday at noon, which marks the beginning of Lent, the forty-day period before Easter. During Lent, Roman Catholics and some other Christians traditionally abstained from the consumption of meat and poultry, hence the term "carnival", from *carnelevare*, "to remove (literally, "raise") meat". So, Carnival, is a big party in preparation for lent and a time to enjoy meat (and all other things people give up for lent in the modern times) one last time!