Kaleidoscope

Below are two different ways to make a kaleidoscope; one using metallic textas and the other using beads. Show us your kaleidoscope on the Kids Club Online Gallery!

What you need:

- Cardboard roll
- Clear hard plastic (I used some from my recycling. It was a fresh pasta packaging that I cut up)
- Cardboard/thick paper
- Kitchen foil
- Paper
- Metallic pens or textas
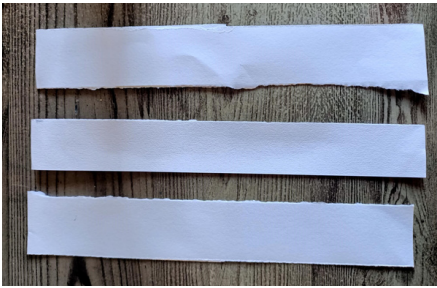- Sticky tape
- Scissors

What to do:

- Trace around the cardboard roll twice onto the clear plastic. Cut the circles out. These will go over both ends of the cardboard roll.

- Using metallic markers, colour in one of the plastic circles.

- On the cardboard, draw three strips of paper that measure 2.5cm wide and are a little bit shorter in length than the cardboard roll. Cut these out. Cover each strip in kitchen foil and use sticky tape to stick them together, like in the picture. Using the metallic textas, colour in parts of the foil. Shape into a long triangle and stick together with the colour on the inside.

- Stick the coloured plastic circle onto one end of the cardboard roll. Slip the foil triangle inside the roll and stick the second plastic circle to the other end. Decorate the outside of the cardboard roll. I coloured in paper and covered the roll. Look through the clear plastic end of the kaleidoscope. Can you see some of the colours reflecting off the foil inside? This works best if you are somewhere with a lot of light.
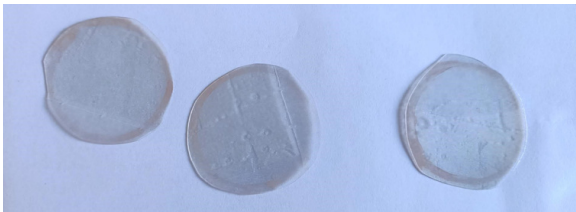
Kaleidoscope using beads.

What you need:

- Cardboard roll
- Clear hard plastic (I used some from my recycling. It was a fresh pasta packaging that I cut up)
- Cardboard/thick paper
- Kitchen foil
- Paper
- Transparent coloured beads
- Sticky tape
- Scissors

What to do:

- Trace around the cardboard roll three times onto the clear plastic. Cut the circles out. Stick one of the circles to the end of the cardboard roll. Place some beads into the roll. Use enough so when the roll sits on the end, the plastic circle is almost covered.

- Place the second circle into the cardboard roll so it sits on top of the beads. You may need to trim it down so it fits inside. Use something like a ruler to poke it down, you want the circle to sit flat on top of the beads.

- On the cardboard, draw three strips of paper that measure 2.5cm wide and are a little bit shorter than the cardboard roll. Cut these out. Cover each strip in kitchen foil and use sticky tape to stick them together, like in the picture. Shape into a long triangle and stick together.

- Slip the foil triangle inside the roll and stick the third plastic circle to the other end. Decorate the outside of the cardboard roll. Look through the clear plastic end of the kaleidoscope. Can you see some of the colours from the beads reflecting off the foil inside? This works best if you are somewhere with a lot of light.