



Fuzzy's & Britta's Circus School

There are several ways of making juggling balls - I will describe two. The first uses balloons and seeds or sand, the second tennis balls and sand.

BALLOON BALLS

What you will need.

6 balloons, 375grams of sesame seeds (you can also use sand, peas anything rounded and a non-choking hazard), plastic bottle, scissors and scales/measuring cup.

Step 1:

Divide the seeds into three equal amounts, either by weight (125grams) or volume. Put one portion of seed into the plastic bottle.

Step 2:

Partially blow up one balloon to the size of a juggling ball and place over the top of the bottle. Turn the balloon and bottle upside down so the seed goes into the balloon.

You can set this as a problem solving exercise. It took me a few attempts to come up with this method.

Step 3:

Tie a knot in the balloon and cut off the top bit above the knot. Cut the top off the second balloon and place the filled balloon inside the second. Put the first balloon in knot first. You can repeat this with more balloons to make the ball stronger. You may also cut out bits of the subsequent balloons and have multicoloured balls.

TENNIS BALLS

Unfortunately tennis balls are a bit light, so we have to weight them. This is the easiest method.

What you will need.

Three tennis balls, sand, sharp knife, Bostic glue or other rubber solution, funnel scales or measuring cup.

Step 1:

First weigh a ball. Then calculate how much sand you will need to make the weight up to 125g. Measure out that amount of sand.

Step 2:

Cut a small slit into the ball. Use the funnel to pour the sand into the ball. Do not fill the ball completely with sand. The sand inside helps dissipate the force so the ball. The loss of energy helps in preventing the ball from bouncing out of your hand. These balls are known as Russian balls.

Step 3:

Glue the hole closed. Try and get the glue onto the cut surface inside the hole. I recommend rubber solution as the ball will flex and brittle glues will not hold.

