

KOINOBORI WINDSOCKS



These colourful carp streamers are traditionally flown in Japan to mark 'Children's Day'

You will need:

- Card toilet roll inner tubes
- Coloured tissue paper
- String
- Small pieces of white paper

Other things you'll need:

- Glue and scissors
- Sticky tape
- A black pen or felt-tip
- A bamboo cane, dowel rod or other suitable stick to attach the windsock to

How to make it:

- 1 Cut out circles from 3 or 4 colours of tissue paper. Make the circles approximately 3.5cm in diameter. Then cut the circles in half to make semi-circles.
- 2 Begin gluing the semi-circles to the toilet paper inner tube: start at one end and allow the curved edge of the semi-circle pieces to over hang the end of the tube (this makes the carp's tail).
- 3 Continue gluing the pieces to the tube (curved edge towards the tail end), working your way up to the opposite (head) end of the tube. Overlap each row slightly to make a fish scale effect.
- 4 Using the same colours, cut out 4-6 strips of tissue paper approximately 20 x 2cm. Glue one end of each strip to the inside of the tail end of the tube.
- 5 Cut out 2 circles from white paper approximately 2cm in diameter. Glue one on each side of the tube, at the head end. Draw a black 'eye' on each white circle.
- 6 Attach two pieces of string inside the tube with sticky tape. **TIP:** knot the ends of the string before sticking to prevent them sliding out too easily in the wind.
- 7 Tie the other ends of the string to the bamboo cane or dowel rod. Place the windsock somewhere it can catch the breeze and allow the tail strips to flutter like a carp swimming upstream!

Traditionally, Koinobori are coloured black, red and blue