

Building a Ship Mast and Stand for Sing & Play Splash



Materials

- 6" diameter carpet tube for mast
- PVC pipe for mast crosspiece
- saw to cut carpet tube, PVC pipe, and 2" x 4" boards
- hole saw or drill (the diameter of the PVC pipe)
- screw-in eye bolt
- pulley—will clip onto eye bolt
- thin cord—will pass through pulley
- window shade cord cleat or screw-in metal hook to wrap cord ends
- 2 small carabiners
- 2" x 4" boards for stand
- nails
- strips of foam core to add weight to the Bible Point posters
- glue

Mast Construction

1. Carpet tubes may be as long as 12 feet; if you need to have a shorter mast, cut the tube to the desired length.
2. Using a hole saw or drill, drill cross holes through the carpet tube approximately one-fourth down from the top end. For example, if your mast is 12 feet long, drill the holes at 3 feet from the top. You will slide the PVC pipe through the cross holes, and a snug fit is desirable to keep the pipe in place, so don't cut the cross holes too large.
3. Determine the best width of the PVC crosspiece. With a 12-foot carpet tube, a 10-foot length of PVC pipe is a good proportion. Slide the PVC pipe through the holes in the carpet tube so the crosspiece extends evenly on both sides of the carpet tube.

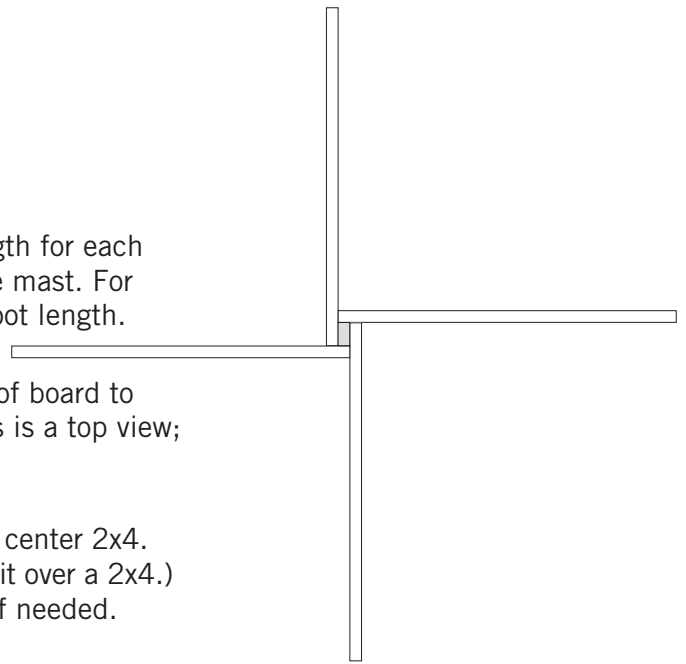


4. Screw the eye bolt into carpet tube mast near the top.
5. Clip the pulley onto one carabiner and fasten the carabiner to the eye bolt. Run your rope through the pulley. Tie the second carabiner about a foot from the end of the rope. Then tie the rope ends together to make a continuous rope loop.
6. Screw a metal hook or window shade cord cleat into the carpet tube about a fourth of the way from the bottom.



Stand Construction

1. Cut five pieces of 2" x 4" boards to the same length. The length for each piece should be about one-third the length of the carpet tube mast. For example, if the mast is 12 feet long, cut each board to a 4-foot length.
2. Stand one of the 2" x 4" boards upright, and nail one length of board to each side of the center board. as shown in the diagram. (This is a top view; the shaded piece in the middle is the upright center board.)
3. Place the bottom end of the carpet tube mast over the upright center 2x4. (Most carpet tubes are approximately 6" in diameter and will fit over a 2x4.) Screws can be drilled into the carpet tube and upright 2x4, if needed.



Hoisting the "Sails"

1. Cut 3" strips of foam core the width of the top of the Bible Point posters, and glue a strip to the top of each poster.
2. Cut a hole into the top of each poster, through the center of the foam core strip.
3. To hoist the poster, clip the carabiner on the rope through the hole in the top of the poster and raise the poster to the top of the mast. Wrap the lower end of the rope loop to the cleat or hook at the lower part of the mast to keep the poster in place.
4. On consecutive days at Sing & Play Splash, the previous days' posters can be hung on the crosspiece of the mast so kids will be sure to remember all of the High Seas Expedition Bible Points.

