



DAWN ACTIVITY LEADER GUIDE

VESTA PIÑATA!

Goal:

Find out what's inside a Vesta Piñata!

Estimated time:

30 min advanced prep
15-20 minutes

Who to do it with:

Ages: 3-Adult
Numbers: 3 or more!

What you need:

- Balloons
 - 1 Large round balloon (for Vesta)
 - 1 Small round balloon and 1-2 long balloons (for Sombrero)
- Paper-Mache (newspapers, flour, water)
- Various kinds of candy
- Glue, String, Bat

Advanced preparation:

1. Create a Paper-Mache Vesta using the large round balloon. When dry, paint gray to smooth out the paper and create a smooth surface. Let dry.
2. Make a Paper-Mache sombrero using the small round balloon and long balloons. When dry, use colorful crepe paper to decorate.
3. Make a hole in the top of Vesta and fill with candy.
4. Glue the sombrero over the hole.
5. Be sure to glue on some string to hang the piñata from.

How to do it:

1. Hang the Vesta piñata from the ceiling or from a long pole.
2. Make sure everyone is a safe distance from the piñata.
3. Have participants take turns hitting the piñata with a bat until the candy empties out.

Why do it:

It's fun! Vesta has a large crater in the South Polar Region. This crater has provided many opportunities for scientists to learn new information about Vesta. Here, you get to make your own crater in Vesta!

Our thanks to JPL Solar System Ambassador Ken Brandt for the idea!