

OSSIRI

and the

BALA MENGRO



Activities

- Find out about recycling – what items are recycled in your area and how are they collected? What happens to them in the recycling process?



- Help to sort your recycling into different categories.



- Look at the things that you throw away or recycle. How could you reduce the amount? Are there things you could reuse? Or reusable items with which you could replace disposable or recyclable items? For example, if you wrap your food in foil, what could you use instead?



- Polish your shoes so that they are as shiny as Ossiri's new leather boots.
- Learn to sew on a button or mend a tear in clothes. See if you can fix any broken toys.



- Put on some music and dance.



- Find the Romani words in the books. Without looking at the glossary, can you work out what they mean? Can you find out any other Romani words? Lots of families speak more than one language, or use words that are particular to their family or local area (called a dialect). What words like these do you use? Can you make a glossary of important ones?

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Crafts

Weave using scrap material

1. Create a loom by wrapping string around a piece of cardboard or a shoebox. Make sure the string is evenly spaced. You can cut grooves to keep it in place.
2. Use scrap material – cut up bits of fabric or old t-shirts, wool, or even plastic bags – and weave them over and under the pieces of string.
3. After you've woven each row, push it tightly together with the one before.
4. Cut the string off the loom and tie off the ends.



Make an instrument

Collect unused items from around the house or from the recycling bin. Find a cardboard tube or a strong stick and attach the objects to it so that they make a noise when they are hit, shaken or rattled. What different sounds can you make?

Make a shaker

1. Find an empty container with a lid and half fill it with dry beans, rice, or lentils, or anything else that will make a noise.
2. Put the lid on, and seal it with parcel tape.
3. Decorate the container with colourful stickers or coloured paper.
4. Shake to make some music. Can you keep a beat? How does the sound change according to what your shaker is made from or what you put inside it?



Visit Ossiri's Pinterest board for more craft ideas.