

Design A Target Pole

Animal training and positive reinforcement is how our animal care staff teaches our animals new things. They do this with the help of a tool called a target pole. The animal learns to touch its nose to the tip of the pole and then can be taught to move its body in different ways, by following the target. Today you are going to create your very own target pole using materials found around your home.

Materials

- 2-4 toilet paper rolls OR 1-2 paper towel rolls
 - Markers, crayons, colored pencils
 - Tape or glue
 - Decorating supplies (stickers, streamers, whatever you want to make your target pole unique!)
 - Construction paper or printer paper
1. Start by taping your paper towel or toilet paper rolls together so they form one large tube.
 2. Wrap your new target pole in construction paper or computer paper for a uniform look.
 3. Start decorating! Use whatever materials you have to make your target pole unique.
 4. Once your target pole is dry and complete, start training!

Stay tuned for our next virtual field trip where you will learn all about our male Atlantic bottlenose dolphin Nicholas. You will use the target pole you created in a training game released with our next virtual field trip.

