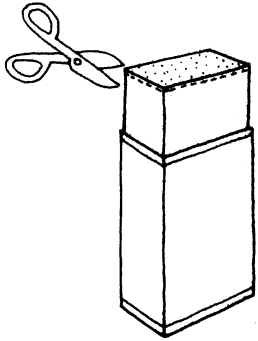
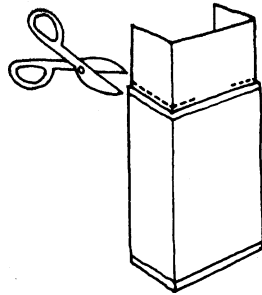


SWINGING ACROBAT

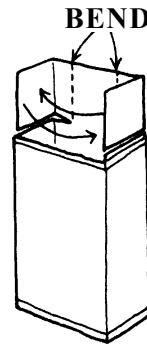
You will need: two empty matchboxes two wood battens, about 2 x 25-cm string, scissors, nail, glue, sticky tape, pencil, ruler and colouring materials.



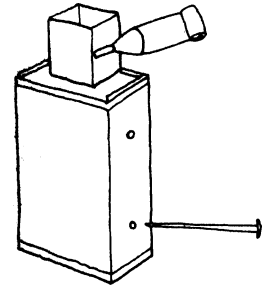
1. Push part of one matchbox tray from its casing and cut away the end.



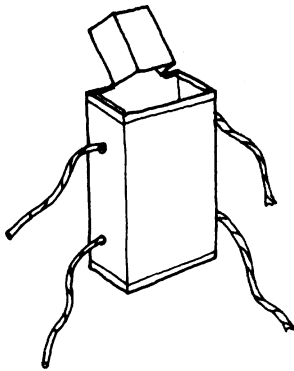
2. Cut into the sides of the tray, above the edge of the casing.



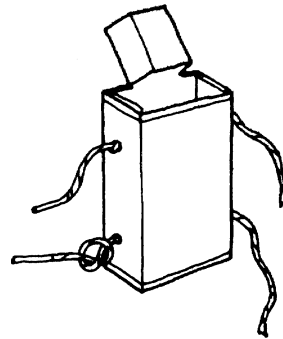
3. Bend the bottom of the tray as shown, so that the side flaps overlap....



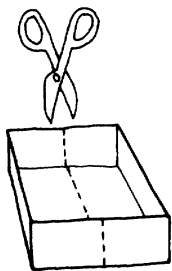
4and fasten them together with a spot of glue. This forms the acrobat's head. Now make two holes in each side of the box with a nail.



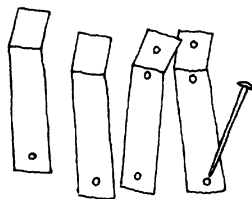
5. Cut two pieces of string at least 12-cm long. Neatly wrap a small piece of sticky tape around one end of each (to stop the ends from fraying), and thread one through the top two holes and one through the bottom two holes.



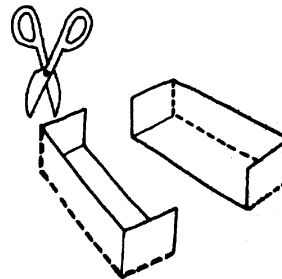
6. Tie a knot in each protruding end, close to the side of the box.



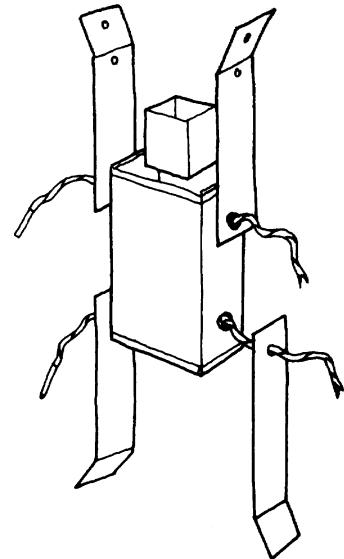
7. Take the tray from the other empty matchbox and cut it in half lengthways.



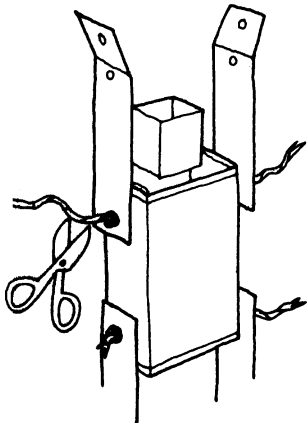
8. Then cut each half as shown to make four similar pieces.



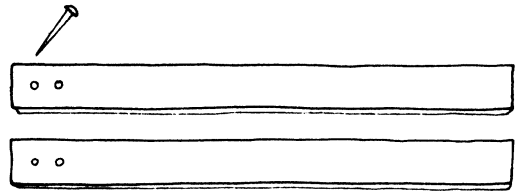
9. These will become the acrobat's arms and legs. Pierce a hole in one end of each as shown. In two of the pieces, pierce another two holes, 1-cm apart, at the other end.



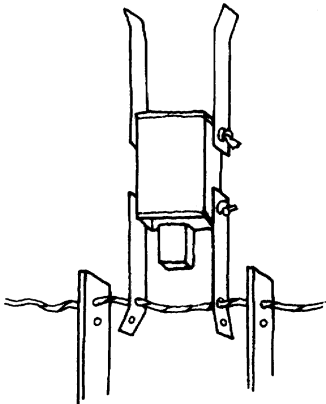
10. Slip the arms and legs on to the string ends. Tie a knot in each string close to the arm or leg....



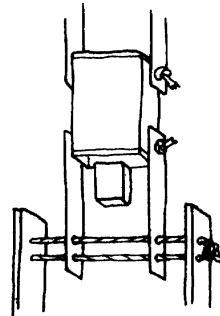
11.... and cut off any surplus.



12. Prepare the handles by piercing two holes, 1-cm apart, in one end of each of your battens.



13. Place the acrobat on a table, head down, between the two handles as shown. Take a piece of string, about 20-cm long, and wrap sticky tape around one end. Thread this end through the uppermost holes in the handles and arms....



14.... then take the string back through the lower holes and tie a knot to complete the loop. Cut off any surplus string.



15. Bring down the acrobat to lie between the handles. Draw in the face and perhaps a colourful costume.

16. Pull the two handles apart and the acrobat should swing up and around with his legs flying.

IMPORTANT: Before using this toy make sure the strings are crossed at points **A** and **B** as in fig 15. Sometimes the strings become twisted, or crossed the wrong way, and this prevents the toy from working properly.

