## HOW TO MAKE A YARN BALL <br> By Patty Kimbrell, M.Ed.

## Supplies:

-Ball of yarn (one 7-ounce skein typically yields 3+ yarn balls)
-Zip ties (9" or longer, find at local hardware store)
-Scissors (if children are helping, supervision is a must!)
-Cardboard squares, size 6 " $\times 6^{\prime \prime}$ (or larger for larger yarn balls),
 recycling cardboard makes this project environmentally friendly!

## Directions:

1. Choose one color of yarn (or multiple colors for a more exciting combination).
2. Holding a cardboard square, approximately 6 " $\times 6$ " square, wrap the yarn around the cardboard approximately 200 times or more, going in a north and south direction. Don't wrap too hard or the cardboard will begin to bend causing the ball to be smaller.

3. Slide the yarn off the cardboard (bending the cardboard at this point makes this process easier). Bent cardboard squares are reusable.
4. Wrap the zip tie around the middle of the yarn, insert the end of the zip tie through the eye of the zip tie and pull it very tight. The zip tie should lock in place securing the yarn ball.

5. Cut off the excess plastic of the zip tie as close to the eye of the zip tie as possible.
6. Using scissors, cut through the loops at each end. Trim the long pieces of yarn, as needed.
7. Fluff your yarn ball and get ready to play!


