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**Paper Cup Party Popper**


Playful Learning




Ages: 3-8



30 minutes



Grownup needed



Want to make your party more exciting? We'll create a simple yet surprising paper cup party popper! They're incredibly easy to make using common household materials. You'll be able to create a fantastic "pop" effect that will instantly fill your party with laughter and delight! Let's begin a colourful celebration!

## Materials Needed

Three sheets of coloured paper (different colours)  
One paper cup  
Tape  
Scissors  
Balloon



## Step-by-step tutorial

### Step 1

Using scissors, cut out the bottom of the paper cup, following the edge as closely as possible.



### Step 2

Take the balloon and tie a knot at its neck.



### Step 3

Using scissors, cut off the tail end of the balloon neatly.



### Step 4

Stretch the cut end of the balloon over the bottom of the trimmed paper cup.



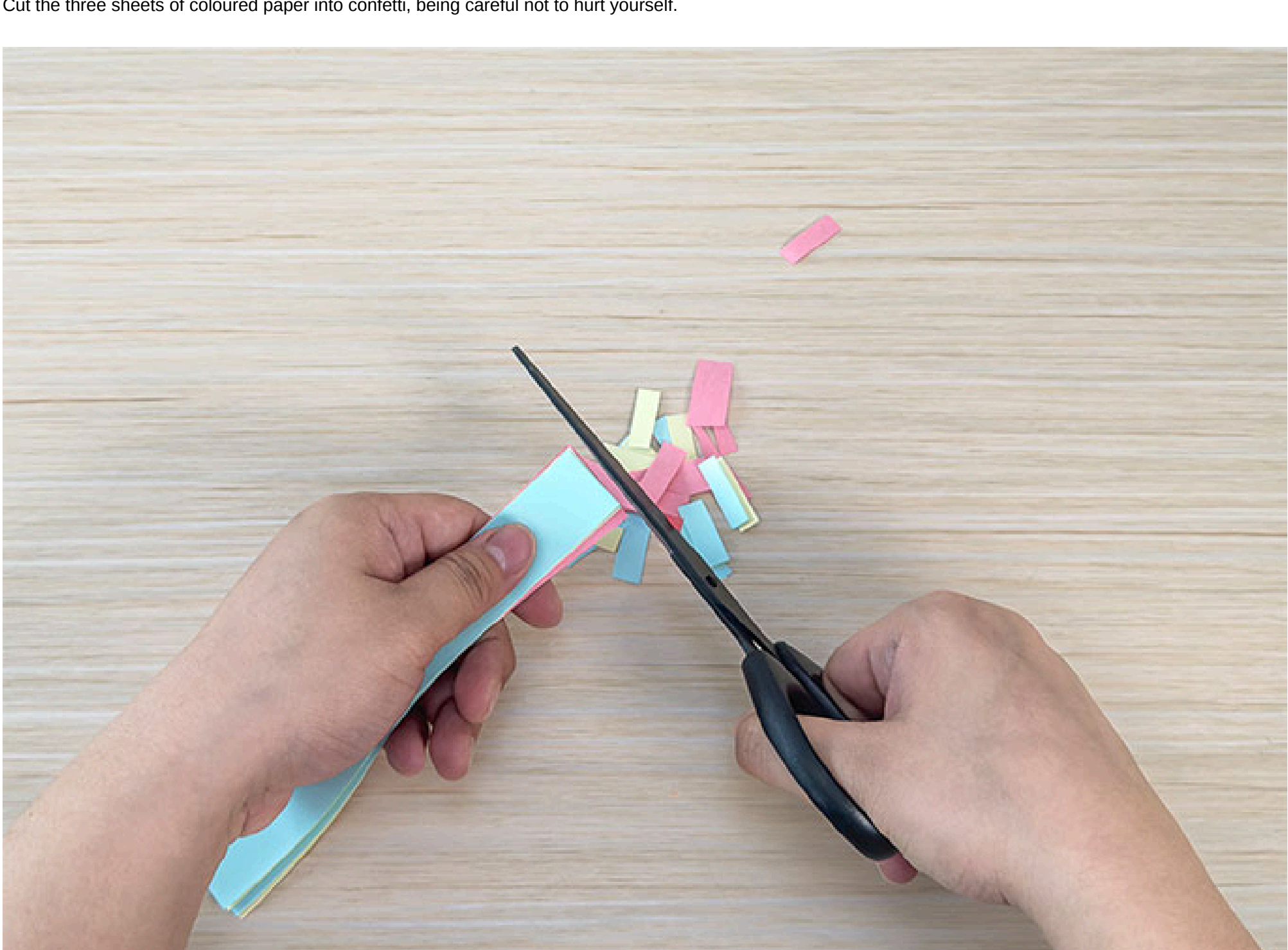
### Step 5

Use tape to securely fasten the balloon to the cup.



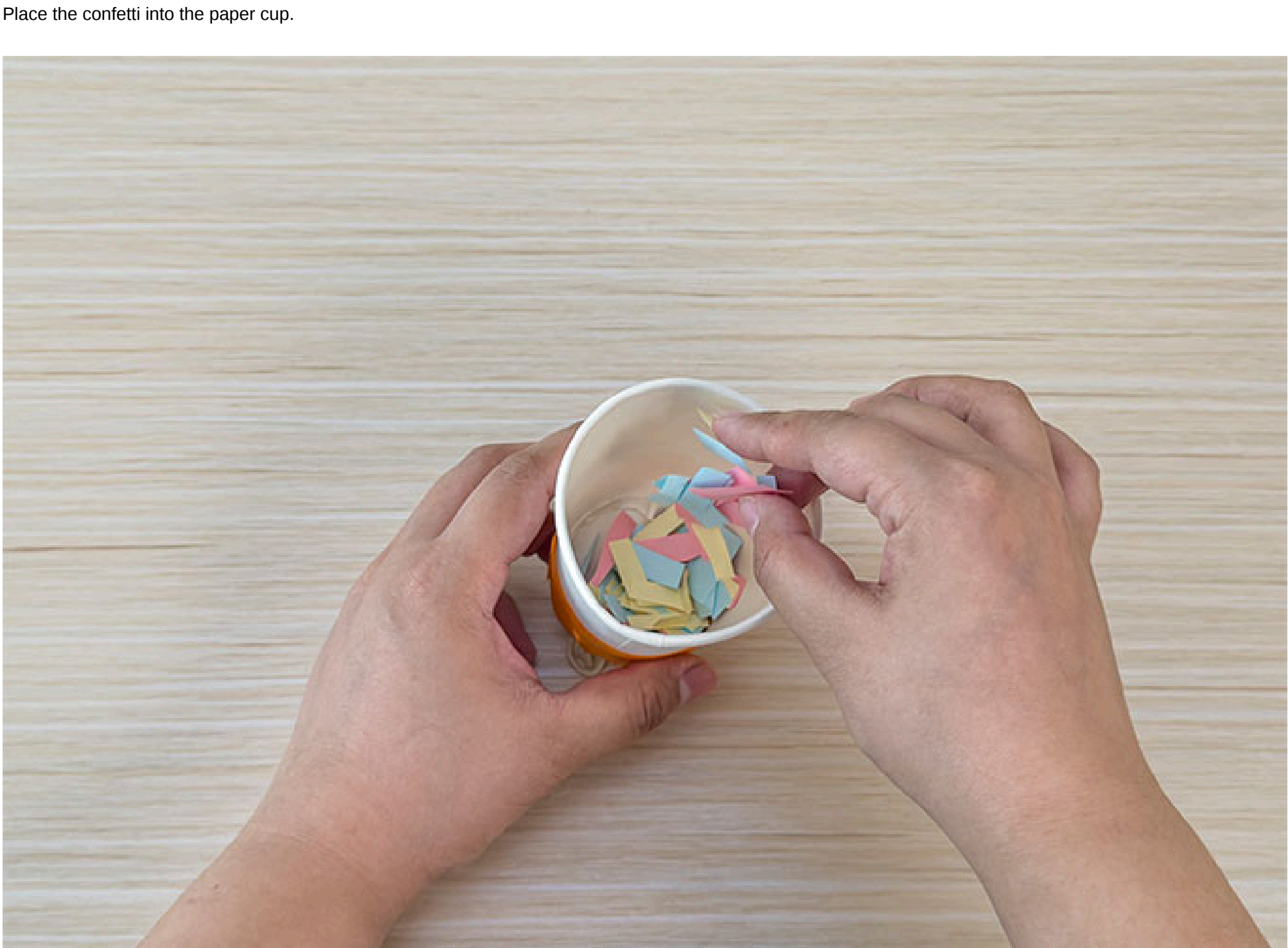
### Step 6

Cut the three sheets of coloured paper into confetti, being careful not to hurt yourself.



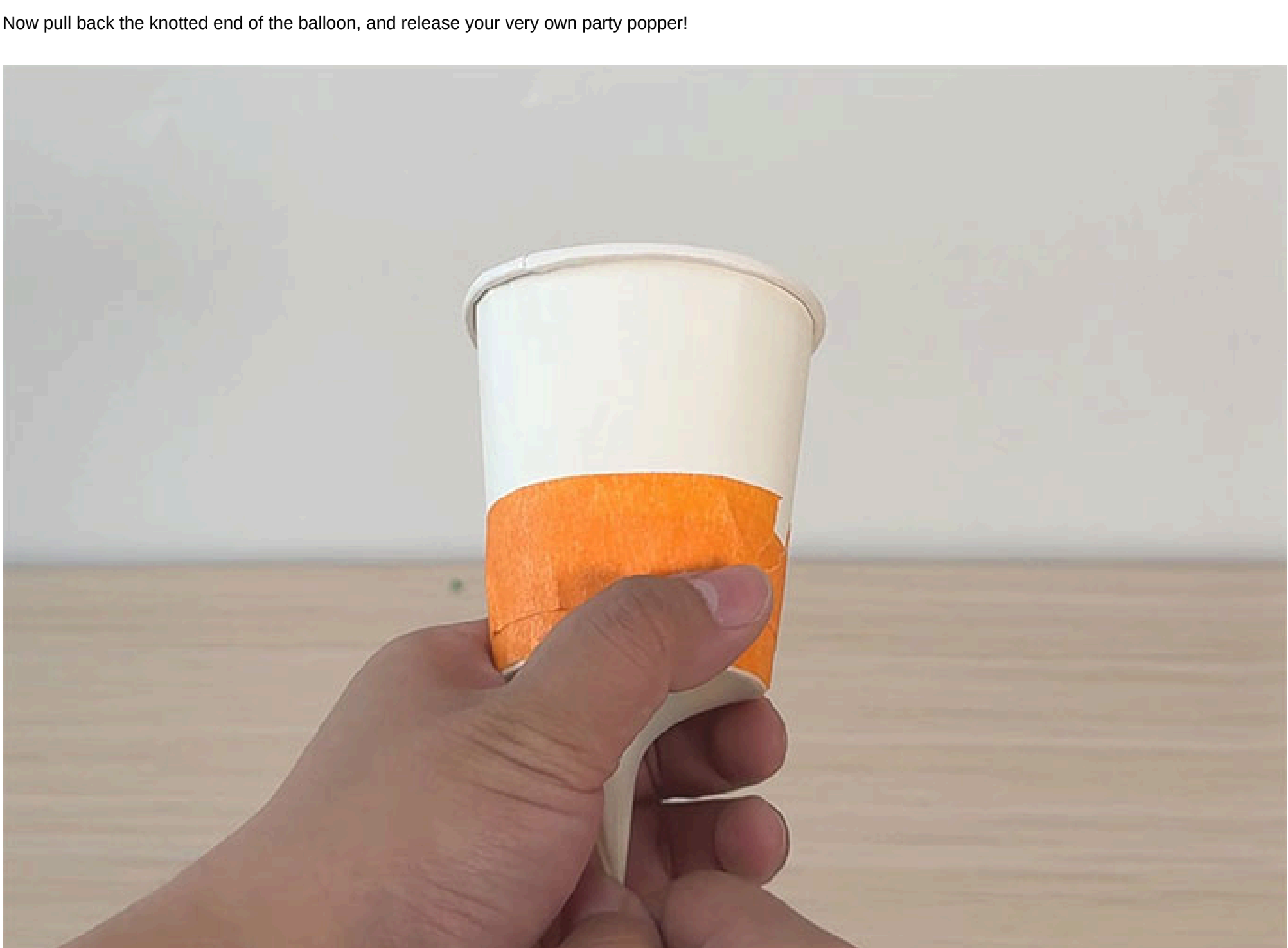
### Step 7

Place the confetti into the paper cup.



### Step 8

Now pull back the knotted end of the balloon, and release your very own party popper!



## The Science Behind It:

When you stretch the balloon, it creates tension, similar to drawing a bow. As the balloon is stretched, it stores elastic potential energy. When you release the balloon, this potential energy converts into kinetic energy, propelling the paper confetti outward. This process demonstrates how energy transforms from one form (potential energy) to another (kinetic energy).

Think about it: What other materials in everyday life, like balloons, can store and release elastic potential energy?