**THE DIY RUBIN AMULETS**

**ABOUT**

Raksha Bandham is a Hindu Festival that celebrates the bond of love and protection between siblings; furthermore, it celebrates the bond beyond the biological relationship to broader relationships of love and protection amongst people. This activity will focus on these bonds of love and protection that Hindus celebrate by finding everyday objects and granting them special symbolism. For example, an old key can be a symbol of love; key to your heart so to speak, while a fallen leaf can be a symbol of growth, and so forth.

**MATERIALS**

- Any kind of container to hold your amulets; paper towel rolls, pasta boxes, to-go cups, etc.
- Paper
- Pencils
- Brush
- Paint
- Scissors
- Glue
- Glitter
- Amulets! Objects you will use as amulets.

*Remember this is a home activity, so the idea is to use things we have at home. If you don’t have a paint brush, paint with your fingers! If you don’t have paint, pencils will do. Play around with materials, and use your imagination!*
INSTRUCTIONS

Step 1
First, find the container that will hold your amulets, we found a pasta box and a toilet paper roll.

Step 2
Decorating your Amulet Box! Take a sheet of paper and paint or draw something special. You will use this paper to decorate the box. Don’t be afraid to write some words of encouragement and Good Luck! Remember, Raksha Bandham is all about bonds of love and protection.

Step 3
When your painting has dried, cut it into pieces and glue all around the box.

Step 4
Now time to find your amulets: Scavenge around your home, block or anywhere safe for symbolic objects, this means objects that represent feelings.

Step 5
Look for fallen leaves, old keys, used metro cards; lose buttons, pennies, any object that inspires in you feelings of love, respect, protection.

Step 6
Put the object into the container. You now have an Amulet! Or a bunch of them. Keep your amulet box somewhere safe but accessible, you can take it out and contemplate it when you need a little love or good luck!