

## Creative Parenting: Turn old CDs into new toys



 **Balloon-powered hovercraft** (Donna Erickson)

"What is round, hovers on a thin cushion of air, spins like a top and plays music at the touch of a button?" Give up? It's a CD, the basis for the following balloon-powered hovercraft and spinning-top toys.

**Balloon-powered hovercraft:** Remove the twist-nozzle top from an empty plastic mustard or household white glue bottle. Wash and dry the entire top.

Using a low-temp glue gun, attach the base of the nozzle top over the hole of an old CD you wish to recycle. Let dry.

Pull the lip of a medium-size balloon over the nozzle portion only and tape it in place with electrical tape. (Note: Be sure at this step to create an airtight seal or the toy won't work.)

To play with your new hovercraft, twist the nozzle into the open position. Put the opposite side of the CD to your mouth and blow through the hole to inflate the balloon. When the balloon is inflated, quickly twist the nozzle into the "closed" position to trap the air inside the balloon.

Place the CD — balloon side up — on a flat surface, such as a large table or smooth floor. Twist the top open, give it a little push and, as the air in the balloon rushes out, watch the CD hover across the surface!

*Donna Erickson's award-winning television series, "Donna's Day," is airing on PBS nationwide. Watch it in the Twin Cities at 1:30 p.m. Fridays on Channel 2 and 5:30 p.m. Sundays on Channels 13 and 17. Sign up for Donna's e-newsletter at [donnasday.com](http://donnasday.com). Her latest book is "Donna Erickson's Fabulous Funstuff for Families."*