

## *From Plastic Bag to Jump Rope*

In *One Plastic Bag: Isatou Ceesay and the Recycling Women of the Gambia*, Isatou Ceesay turns old plastic bags into new purses. You can turn old bags into something new too! Follow these directions to make a jump rope.

### Materials:

plastic bags  
scissors  
duct tape

1. Choose a plastic bag. Cut open the bottom and one side of the bag. When you are done, you will have a flat sheet of plastic.
2. Cut the plastic into 1-inch (2.5-centimeter) strips.
3. Tie the ends of the strips together to create one long strip of plastic. The long strip should go from the floor to your chin twice. Make twelve long strips.
4. Take the ends of all twelve strips, and tape them to the top of a table.
5. Divide the twelve strips into three groups. Each group should have four strips. Use the three groups to make one thick braid.
6. When the braid is done, cover the end with duct tape. That's your jump rope handle.
7. Take the other end of the rope off the table. Wrap this end in duct tape to make the other handle. You've made a jump rope!

Isatou sold her purses to other people. She created goods. When you braided the jump rope, you made a good too!

Pretend you are selling jump ropes in your town. How will you tell people you are selling jump ropes? How will you get them to buy one? Make a poster to sell your jump rope. Then write a five-sentence paragraph that tells three reasons people should buy your jump rope.

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This assignment addresses the following Common Core Standard:

### **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.1**

Write opinion pieces in which they introduce the topic or book they are writing about, state an opinion, supply reasons that support the opinion, use linking words (e.g., because, and, also) to connect opinion and reasons, and provide a concluding statement or section.

This assignment addresses the following National Curriculum Standard for Social Studies:

### **7. Production, Distribution, and Consumption**