RePlay for Kids - Tips for Adapting a Toy

1. Choose a toy
   - if it is in a box, try to put it back in when you are done

2. Make sure it works
   - try new batteries if it doesn’t

3. Decide which switch(es) you want to adapt
   - lights, sounds, motor? (whichever is more interesting)
   - usually we adapt just one switch (two if you’re ambitious)

IF IN DOUBT, JUST ASK US

4. Figure out where to connect to switch

5. Take apart toy – try to find the least destructive way
   - Keep track of all the screws
   - We have sewing kits if you need to tear into fabric
   - We have assorted glues if you need to pry something apart

6. Decide where to connect cable
   - Connect at the switch, or
   - Connect along wires that go from the switch to the circuit, or
   - Connect at the circuit where the switch connects

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7. Prepare cable
   - Cut 2-3 foot section of wire from spool
   - Remove insulation from ¼ inch of wire on each end using wire strippers

8. Connect the wires to the toy first, by soldering the wires to the location you identified above.

9. Decide where to have wires exit toy
   - File a notch if necessary (so the wire won’t get crushed)
   - Look for strain relief options

10. Connect the wires to the jack
    - Remember to remove sleeve and put over cable before soldering
    - Place one deinsulated wire end in each of the two holes in the jack and solder them
    - Make sure the wires don’t touch each other.
        You can slide a small piece of electrical tape between the 2 wires if they look like they might touch.
    - Slide the sleeve back over the jack
    - Test the adapted toy with one of our switches

11. If it works, place the toy back in its box (if it had one) and put in the “finished toys” pile.

AT ANY POINT, IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, JUST ASK US
SOLDERING TIPS

SAFETY FIRST!

• Soldering irons are **HOT**!

• Glue guns are **HOT**!

BE CAREFUL!

• Young children will use these toys
  ⇒ Do not leave sharp edges or small, choke-able pieces on the toy when you are finished

HOW TO SOLDER

• Use the clip to help hold the jack or cable wire
• Place the tip of the solder iron against the wire and let it heat up.
• Hold solder wire at tip until it melts into the cable wire
• Take the soldering iron away and let the junction cool down
• Use a small amount of solder to avoid shorting out other wires
• Inspect solder - It should by clean, shiny & smooth.
• Use solder wick to remove excess solder if you use too much.

Solder wire  Solder wick  Using solder wick to remove excess solder