

Family Art from Home

Make a Paper Carreta

A *carreta* is a two-wheeled wagon that Spanish settlers in New Mexico used to move their belongings from one place to another. As metal for nails was very rare in New Mexico, these carts were made entirely out of wood, and they were designed to either be pulled by oxen or by a person. They had two very large wheels which were designed so that the wheels could go over rough ground without being damaged easily.

Supplies Needed

- *carreta* template
(located on pages 2-3 of this document)
- colored pencils
- scissors
- tape
- 2 metal brads or fasteners

How to do it!

1. Color in the body, wheels, and handle of the *carreta*. A traditional *carreta* is made from wood and would be brown, but you can color your *carreta* any color you want.

2. Use scissors to cut out all four parts of the *carreta*.

3. Fold the three sides of the *carreta* body towards the center, and then use tape to attach the sides to each other.

4. Use the brads to attach the wheels to the *carreta* body. Push one brad through the dot in the center of each wheel, and then through the corresponding dot on the long side of the *carreta*. Spread the sides of the brad so that the wheels will stay on the *carreta*.

5. Use tape to attach the handle to the front of the *carreta* body on the open side.



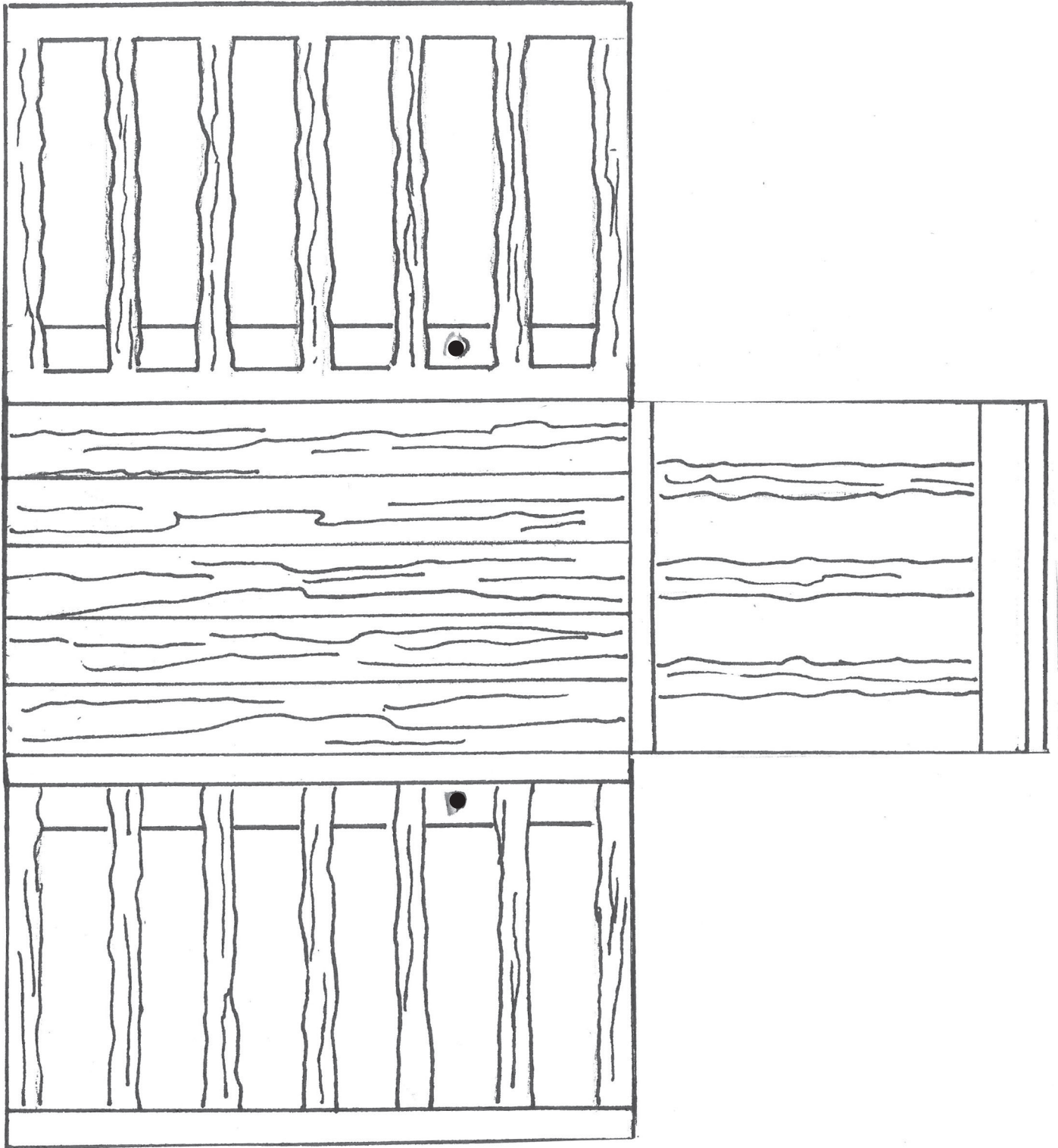
A *carreta* at historic Casa San Ysidro: the Gutiérrez/Minge House in Corrales, New Mexico.



Albuquerque Museum
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Carreta body



Wheels and handle

