Make Your Jumping Robot Come Alive!

Gather your supplies:
- colorful markers, crayons, paint
- scissors
- glue

Decorate your robot. What's inside? (gears, circuits, kittens?)

Wiggle each part away from the surrounding cardboard and poke out the plugs that are blocking the holes.

Turn over the parts and assemble your robot. Use the nuts and bolts to attach the arms and legs, but don't tighten them very much.

Cut a piece of string to make a horizontal loop between the arms. Adjust and tie so the string is taut when the arms are at rest. Repeat for the legs.

Tie the remaining string to the mid-points of the horizontal loops. Tie the other end around the ring.

Finger-tighten the screws and put a drop of glue on the threads so they won't come apart.

Pull down on the ring to make your robot jump, dance and have fun!

Your robot is a "jumping-jack", a toy design as old as ancient Egypt. In 1700s France they were called "Pantins". Most are made of paper or carved wood, but yours was cut from cardboard by a computer-controlled laser beam. So basically a robot made this robot!