

Sets, Props, Masks and Costumes for Original or Scripted Plays, Performances and Parades

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5 to 10 class sessions, adaptable for grades 2 through 8, High School and Adult.

Students create their own characters, props and settings in paper and poster-board, using pencils, scissors, staplers, colored markers or crayons. 6th grade and older students may choose to work in cardboard, using hot glue guns, sharp utility knives, tempera paints and brushes, and 4 to 5 large, clean and flattened cardboard boxes per student. Considerably more storage and work space is needed for projects in cardboard.

The workshop includes a series of demonstrations in cutting and fabrication techniques in the chosen materials; seminars on the symbolism of color, shape and pattern; the recognition and use of positive and negative space; and the creation of 3-dimensional objects from 2-dimensional sketches and drawings, as stage sets, masks, costumes and scenery.



Masks and Costumes in Poster-board; Stage – Set / Prop in Cardboard.
2010 – Crown King Elementary School, Crown King, Arizona.



Stage Props in Cardboard; Costumes and Headdresses in Poster-board and Cardboard.
2010, Crown King Elementary School, Crown King, Arizona.

Tools and materials needed for projects in paper and poster-board; based on 30 students per class and 120 students total:

40 pencils with erasers

10 large erasers

2 scotch tape dispensers and tape

1 roll of 1"-wide masking tape

1 roll of duct tape

4 staplers plus staples

20 boxes of 8 colored markers, containing the primary and basic colors

3 sheets of 8 ½" by 11" white drawing paper per student = 90 sheets per class and 360 total

3 sheets of 14" by 17" white drawing paper per student =90 sheets per class and 360 sheets total

4 to 8 (average 6) pieces of 12" by 18" white poster-board per student = 180 sheets per class, and 720 sheets total. NOTE: Poster-board often comes in sheets greater than 2' by 3' and can be cut in half to serve this project. Dull or matt surfaced poster board is choice, as colors tend to smear on shiny - surfaced poster-board.



Lower elementary project: a poster-board fish-headdress.



Masks and Costumes in Poster-board, with Richard Johnson.

Tools and materials needed for projects in cardboard (based on 30 students per class and 120 students total):

40 pencils with erasers

10 large erasers

1 roll of 1" –wide masking tape

1 roll of duct tape

3 sheets of inexpensive sketch paper (any size) = 90 sheets per class and 270 total

2 sheets of 11" by 17" white drawing paper = 60 per class and 240 total

15 large/adult-size scissors (Durasharp and Friskars brands have good blades)

15 sharp utility knives with replacement blades

8 household extension cords, 6' or 8' long

4: large / 10" glue sticks per student = 120 per class, and 480 total

1 box of band-aids and 1 tube of anti-bacterial ointment (for minor cuts and burns)

2: plastic 1 or 2 gallon buckets

32 ounces each, of the 8 primary and basic colors, in any water based paint (tempera or "poster" paint) per class . And provide more of the most popular colors, if more than 30 people are going to do this project. Consult the artist if necessary: telephone# (928) 634-3309).

8: ¼" paint brushes; 8: ½" inch paint brushes; 8: 1" paint brushes; 8: 2" paint brushes; 8: 3" paint brushes

4 to 5 large, clean, and flattened cardboard boxes per student, = 140 per class, and 550 total



Teenager and adult project in cardboard: "The Many-legged Monster of Jerome".



Upper elementary students' projects in cardboard, with additional materials.