



LESSON 8 LEVEL B MASKS

A NO-SUCH BIRD MASK: A 3-D Half Mask

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN:

designing and making a paper sculpture mask

WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

colored construction paper 23 x 30.5 cm. (9" x 12"); oil pastels; scissors; paper punch, masking tape; rubber bands; yarn or string

"TIPS": You will want to read through the directions and study the diagrams before you start. Then go one step at a time, following carefully. When you are ready to color your mask, be sure to choose the correct side of the beak to decorate; it will be bent down to poke out in front, remember, so you will color what *seems* to be the back.

WORDS TO LEARN:

symmetrical a balanced arrangement on opposite sides of an imaginary line

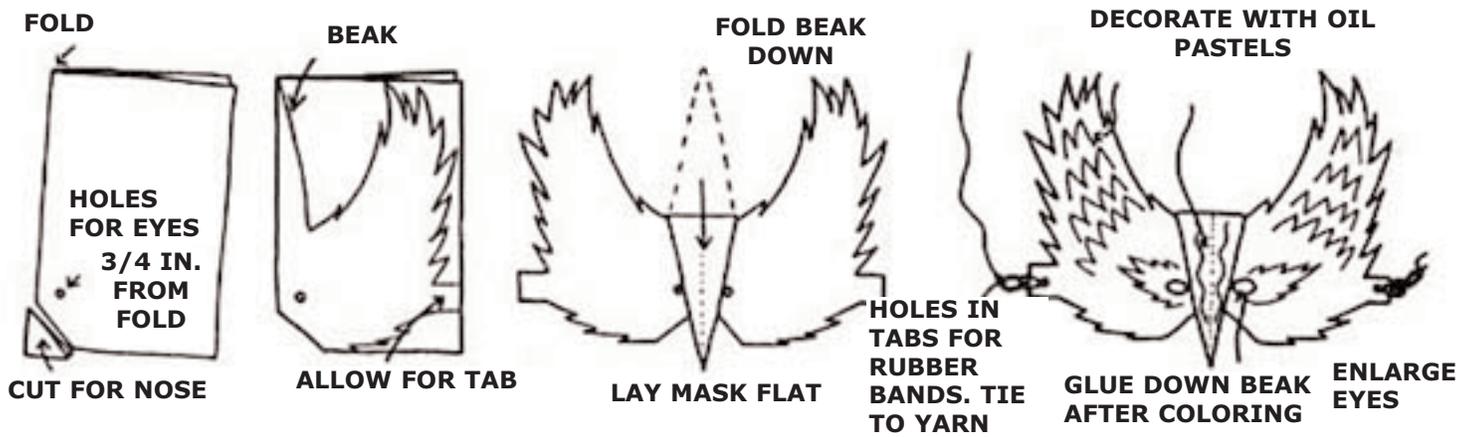


Raven Mask Northwest Coast British Columbia

Getting Started: Paper sculpture turns a flat piece of paper into a 3-dimensional object, such as the bird mask. It will cover half of your face and give you a big pointy beak. You can get ideas from pictures of exotic birds or you can simply use your wild imagination as you cut and color your mask. Study the diagrams as you do each step.

1. Fold the paper in half to make it 23 x 15.25 cm (9" x 6".) Snip a triangle from the bottom of the fold so the mask will sit on the bridge of your nose.
2. Punch a hole 20 mm.(3/4 inches) in from the fold, just above the nose, to make a start for cutting larger holes for the eyes. Cut the eye shapes.
3. Begin at the top and cut a diagonal line that will give you a shape to fold





down for a beak. Your mask will be symmetrical because you have made these cuts on the folded paper.

4. Continue cutting around the edges to make feathers on the lower part of the mask. (You may want to draw the outline in pencil before you begin to cut.) The feathers can extend to the top of the paper. Opposite the eyes, at the unfolded side, cut a tab for attaching the ties of the mask. (see diagram.)

5. Make the tabs stronger by sticking some masking tape on the back. Punch holes for attaching the ties.

6. Now put the the mask on to see if you need to make the eyes larger. Be sure you can see clearly. Lay the mask down flat before you start to decorate it.

7. Use the brightest colors of your oil pastels to make a spectacular bird face. Remember which side of the beak to decorate! Make your design symmetrical to match the cut shape. Fold the beak forward and down. Touch-glue it in place.

8. Punch holes in the tabs. Loop rubber bands through the holes and tie strings to them. The rubberbands will stretch and ease the strain when you wear your mask.



Teddy Age 9

CLEAN UP: Wash your hands. Is the cap of the glue on tight? Put your materials and equipment away. Throw out the scraps.

TALK ABOUT IT: Put on your mask. Look in a mirror. Give your No-Such-Bird a personality and a special name. Do your colors look bright? Is your design symmetrical? Can you see how simple it is to change a piece of flat paper into a 3-D sculpture?

MORE IDEAS: Choose a different color of paper and make another mask for a friend. Make a wider or thinner beak. Make the feathers in a different way. Use different colors to decorate it.

CONNECTIONS: Many people of the world make and use masks. Find books in your library about masks. Why do people make them? Look especially for bird masks in the art of other cultures such as Northwest Coast Native Americans and the people of Mexico.

