



LESSON 23 LEVEL A PAPER SCULPTURE

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN:

creating a 3-D form by fastening together and stuffing paper shapes

WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

newsprint about 30.5 x 45 cm (12" x 18"); scissors; brown or white butcher paper or large paper grocery bags, opened and folded in half; crayons; brown or black watercolor paint or stale strong coffee; large brush; stapler; paper punch; yarn; newspaper to cover work surface.

NOTE TO PARENTS: Drawing a newsprint "pattern" will assure that the fish will be fat enough to take the stuffing that will make it three-dimensional. Some children may object to crumpling their crayoned fish shapes before painting them to create the scaly texture. Suggest that they crumple just one side of their fish, a compromise. Or make two fish, one crumpled; one, not. You can see the difference.

CRAYON BATIK STUFFED FISH



Tropical Fish

GETTING STARTED: Have you ever looked carefully at the many kinds of colorful fish that live in the sea? Sometimes the colors are on their fins and tails. Sometimes, they are around their eyes or in bands and stripes all over their bodies. You can make a many-colored big, paper fish to swim around in the air in your room!

1. Make an outline of a big, fat fish on the newsprint paper. Make it so big that the edges of the fish touch the edges of the paper.

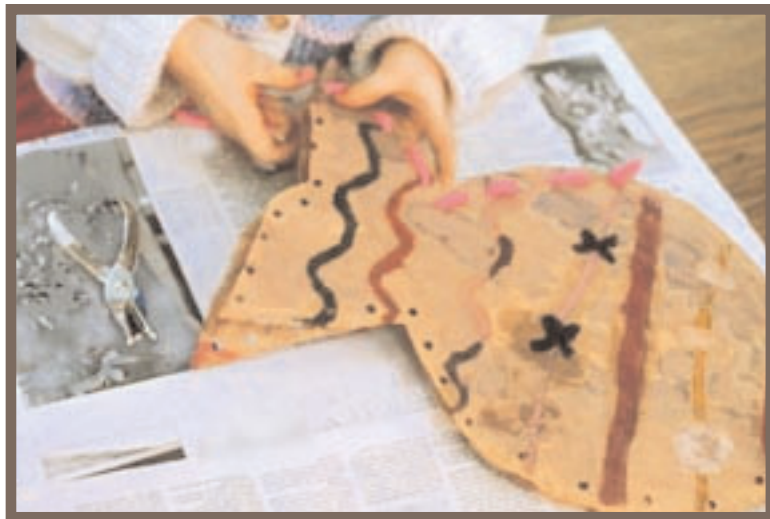
2. Cut out your fish carefully. Put it on the double, folded brown (or white) paper. Be sure the back of the fish is on the fold for 12.5 cm (or 5 inches). You may need to trim your pattern a little so it will fit.

3. Hold the pattern down and draw a line all around it. Then cut along the line . . . but do NOT cut the fold (or "hinge") along the back.



4. One side at a time, color your fish with crayon. Press firmly so the colors look bold and bright. The two sides don't have to be the same. This is the hardest part. Keep working. The real fun comes next.

5. Now, to make your fish look "scaly", crush and crumple it all up tightly. Open it and smooth it. Then crumple and smooth it again.



Mimi Age 4



Helene Age 6

6. Paint all over the crayon colors with black watercolor paint or left-over coffee. The paint will soak into the wrinkles and make an interesting, scaly texture.

7. Take a rest break, because you have worked hard. When the paper is dry, ask an adult to help you fold and staple the two sides of the fish together. Leave a space open to stuff in some loosely crumpled newspaper to make the fish 3-D.

8. You may want to use a paper punch to make holes about 4 cm (1 1/2") apart around the edge. Then you can use colorful yarn to sew around the fish to make it stronger. Use more yarn to hang it in your window where it can "swim" in the air. Or attach it to a pole with other fish as they do in Japan.

CLEAN UP: Throw away all the scraps. Put the other things where they belong so you can find them again. Wash the paintbrush and your hands.

TALK ABOUT IT: Tell how the crumpling and painting changed the look of your fish. Which is the best part of your work? Why?

CONNECTIONS: Find some library books about fish and other sea life. Some books will have make-believe stories about real fish. Others will have real stories about make-believe fish (*McElligot's Pool* by Dr. Seuss.) Some will just have many big, bright pictures of fish to give you more ideas. Try some!