

Art Project 2

Flying Paper Mache

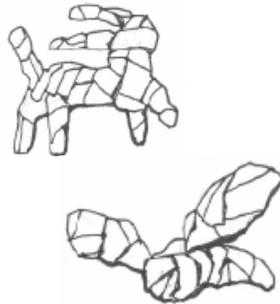


Materials

- “The Story of Flying” by Deni Naffziger located at www.woub.org/passionworks/story
- newspapers
- masking tape
- wallpaper paste
- bowls
- paint brushes
- paint
- T-pins
- fishing line

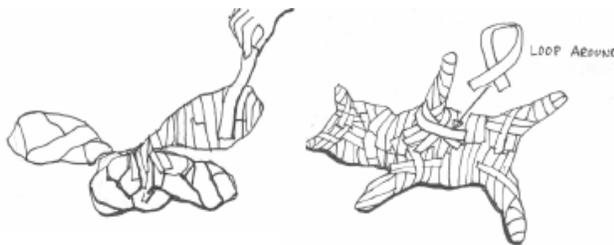
Directions

1. Read aloud “The Story of Flying.” Tell the students that they will be making animals. Provide newspaper and masking tape.



Encourage the students to wad up the newspaper and make it into the shape of animals they thought of when listening to the story. Remind the students that anything can fly—even cats, dogs, snakes and rabbits—because Sophie and Gabriel believed in imagination and flew themselves!

2. Secure the shapes with the masking tape. Make sure the pieces are solid and taped well. Pay special attention to the joints. To secure, loop several pieces of tape around the joint.



3. Mix the wallpaper paste in bowls so that it has a medium consistency — not too watery and not too thick.



Rip the newspaper into strips and dip one strip into the bowl of paste. Demonstrate to the class that you can dip the paper in the paste and squeeze it off with your fingers. You do not need a lot of paste. Hold the top of the strip and, with gentle tension, place the paper over the sculpture.

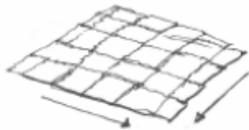
TIP: It is better to rip the paper into strips than to cut it into strips. If you cut the strips, the paper will bump up and the edges will not lay flat.

Project 2

Continued



Repeat the steps above, but have the second strip overlap the first like woven fabric. This will allow you to cover more area in less time and make the sculpture strong. Every once in a while, smooth the covered area with your hand to remove excess paste.



4. Dry the pieces directly on the floor or on boards. If the papier-mâché sculptures are dried on paper, the paper will attach to the object and create rough spots or rip away the paper on the sculpture. As the pieces dry, remember to turn them so that the sides resting on the surface get a chance to dry. A fan can be used to speed up the drying time.

5. Now it is time to paint the pieces and bring them to life! Try painting an undercoat, let dry and add a second coat of a contrasting color. Scratch the surface with a comb, pencil or other object. Students can draw shapes and designs. Offer other materials to decorate the pieces like paint pens, glitter or feathers.

6. When the sculptures are finished and dry, insert a large T-pin into each piece. Tie fishing line around the T-pin and suspend the sculpture from the ceiling. Display in the library, front office, post office, grocery store, nursing home, daycare center, community center, foyer of your school, bank...you imagine it, you can do it.

