

# ACTIVITY SHEET 4.4 - CREATING A PAPIER MACHE 3D MODEL

## PAPIER MACHE

### Step by step

#### Materials

It is advised that you have the following materials for this task:

- Paper (newsprint is ideal)
- Adhesive or glue
- Masking tape
- Paintbrush
- Paints.

#### Preparation

Prepare all material before starting.

1. Tear the newspaper with the grain into strips approximately 2 cm wide by 10 cm long.
2. Which glue will you use? You can make your own glue using a basic flour and water technique or use Cel mix or similar product from art suppliers or PVA/craft glue. Please note - PVA needs to be slightly watered down in a bowl or container and used immediately.
3. Decide how to make the inside framework or skeleton of your 3D figure - aluminum foil or wire is commonly used.

#### Papier mache process

1. Paste the strips of paper both sides with a paintbrush.
2. Place your strips one at a time over the object to be covered and smooth down to remove air bubbles.
3. Cover with 2-3 layers at a time. Be careful not to put too many on at once or it will take too long to dry.
4. When it is completely dry, you can gradually build up as many layers as you need until you have the required thickness.
5. Add features such as stick pieces of cardboard onto the model with masking tape or create pulp to add more details such as noses, eyes and ears. Cover the whole object in more papier mache.
6. When completely dry, paint with water based acrylic paint. It is easy and clean to use, not too expensive and comes in a large variety of colours - it is also quick drying. Alternatively use colour tissue paper and papier mache on the figure to create colour.
7. Other materials that could be used when creating a papier mache sculpture include:
  - Cardboard boxes – sides can be cut out to make flat panels
  - Packaging – polystyrene chunks can be cut, glued together or taped with masking tape.
  - Wire netting – this can be cut and bent into all sorts of shapes and then covered with papier mache - watch the sharp edges.



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