

PROJECT: FACE OFF

This activity will challenge your student to build a face using items found in your recycling bin + around the house. This is also a great project to display in a street-facing window!



Quick Overview: This activity will challenge your student to build a face using items found in your recycling bin and around the house. It is easily adapted for different ages, as your student can make a cartoon face, or something more realistic. This is also a great project to display in a street-facing window!

Objectives (students will be able to):

- Identify anatomical elements of human
- Recognize and use shapes and colors in their design
- Explore different emotions through facial expressions

Age Range: 4+

Activity Time: 20+ minutes

Materials + Tools:

This activity is open ended, as are the materials. Here are some suggestions to help get you started. Think about the shape, texture, and color of different materials that may work well.

Some ideas for face materials:

- Hair: yarn, ripped brown paper bag, toothpicks, forks, or twist ties.
- Eyebrows: twist ties, yogurt wrapper, chopsticks, or pieces of plastic.
- Eye:
 - Sclera (the white part of the eye) - white or clear lid from a yogurt or salsa container
 - Iris (the colored part of the eye - bottle caps, plastic top of 6 pack container, or egg carton.
 - Pupil (the black center part of the eye) - small bead, bottle cap, marble or drawn with a pen or cut from paper.
- Nose: plastic spoon, wine cork, twist tie, rubberband, egg carton, or cardboard.
- Mouth: rubber band, toilet paper tubes, twist tie, yarn or bottle cap.
- Teeth: pull tabs from soda cans.
- Ears: twist tie, string, or half of a plastic cap.

Tools:

- Scissors
- Tape, glue, or other tools to connect items (like wire and twist ties) only if you want to hang your face on display

Preparation:

Prepare the tools and materials for this project. You can either gather an array of materials ahead of time (if you do not want your student rummaging through the recycling bin), or you can involve them in the collection process.

Tips to help involve your student in the collection process:

- Turn it into a scavenger hunt with questions like “What do you think we can use for the hair? What do you think would make a good nose?”
- Move through the different parts of a face, and have them collect items that they think may work.
- Encourage them to collect 2-3 different materials for each part of the face, so they have options once they start building.

Topics for Discussion/Lesson:

- Vocabulary:
 - The anatomy of a face and parts of the eye: Sclera, Pupil, Iris
- Emotional Expression and Communication
 - How does the face express surprise? Happiness? Sadness? Anger? What other emotions does the face express?
- Shapes + Colors

Instructions:

- Questions to start with:
 - Where do you see faces around your house?
 - Go on a scavenger hunt to find all of the traditional faces in the house (pictures, paintings etc).
- Build a face:
 - Using materials from your recycling bin, junk drawer, and around the house, construct a face. The face can be connected to something (like a cardboard box, or a piece of flat cardboard), or just built on a flat surface like a table.
 - If the face is more of a temporary sculpture and just constructed on the table, your student can also rearrange it and play around with the features more.
 - This is also a great project to display in a street-facing window to entertain the neighborhood. To make it easy to hang, consider using a large plastic lid (like the ones that come on boxes of salad), and clear glue or hot glue.
 - Your face can be any size, and this may be dictated by the types of materials you have to build with.
 - Need help getting started? Start with the eyes, then build from there.
- Guiding Questions:
 - What can you use to build the eyebrows? What can you use to build the nose? Move through each part of the face with these questions.
 - How big are the eyes compared to the nose? Pull out a mirror so they can look at their own face while building.
 - What parts of the face express feelings? By changing those elements on the face, can you make your face happy? Sad? Scared? Mad? What other feelings does your face express?
 - Does your face have a name?
 - What is your favorite part of the face you created? What is your favorite part of your own face?

Whether you build your face piece by piece or all at once, take a photograph of the finished face and post it with the hashtag #craftinplace or email it to tuesdaytumbleweedllc@gmail.com

Extensions (ways to keep going...):

- What other additional features would you like to add?
 - Glasses, braces, beauty marks, beard, mustache, earring, nose ring...
- Can you make your face in the profile?
- Can you make your face express an emotion? Can it express one you are feeling now? Can it express a feeling you want to feel?
- Hang your face in the window of your house for others to see!
- Deconstruct your whole face and put your materials back into your creation station, or recycling bin.
- Can you recreate the face of someone you know?
- Draw the face that you created!
- Write a story about the face that you created. Whose face is it?
- Build a face that doesn't belong to a human! Ideas: alien, animal, magical creature.
- Build a body that goes with the face.

Notes/Resources:

To really exercise your creative muscles try and look at the objects around your house or in your recycling bin as materials and shapes. What is small and black that you could use as a pupil? Try not to use a marker or paint, but to use items you find.

Craft in Place is designed to stretch one's imagination in the potential of what skill can be developed with the materials that are available at hand.

Craft in Place is a collaborative effort between:



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