

Animal Masks

Materials:

- Brown, black, grey and white craft foam sheets
- Clothing elastic
- Scissors
- Stapler
- **Mask template- See PDF**
- Paper
- Glue
- Markers
- Natural materials (optional, leaves, bark, grass, etc)

Procedure: (Sharing Inspiration)

- 1) Trace the template onto the foam sheets
- 2) Students can use the scissors to cut out their masks. To make easy eye holes just fold the mask in half and make a small cut along the pre-marked line. This will allow space for the scissors to complete cutting out the eye holes out.
- 3) Use the clothing elastic and measure it around the head of whoever the mask is for and cut it to length. You'll want the elastic to be slightly shorter than the actual measured length.
- 4) Staple the elastic onto the mask so the can be worn.
- 5) Have the children decorate their masks using coloured paper, markers, and natural found materials. Masks that are going to be specific animals may want to add ears or whiskers.

Hints, tips and tricks: Animal masks are a simple craft that allows children to imagine that they are a different animal. They are also fun to use in different games afterwards. We do this activity with children aged 6-8 and it works especially well after a hike, during which the children have collected materials. Good materials include dried leaves, birch bark, lichens - especially old-man's beard and small dry twigs.

Mask PDF link: https://immediac.blob.core.windows.net/macphailwoods/scan_20240322125042.pdf