

ARTS@Home

# **Textured Puppets**

Teaching Artist: Diane Egger-Bovet



#### **Lesson Overview:**

Project Description: Using a simple bag and some papercraft wizardry, you can create a puppet that is full of texture, character, and whimsy.

Medium or Technique: Puppet making, collage, mixed-media

Materials Used: Marker and/or Colored Pencil, Pencil, Found Objects, Paper Bags, Newspaper, Scissors, Glue or Glue Sticks, Your Imagination

Grade Level: 2nd grade and up. Younger children with help. Requires the use of scissors.

#### **CA Visual Arts Standards:**

Anchor Standard 1: Generate and Conceptualize Artistic Ideas and Work.

Grade 2: 2.1 Experiment with various materials and tools to explore personal interests in a work of art or design.

#### **CA Arts Standards for Theatre:**

Anchor Standard 1: Generate and Conceptualize Artistic Ideas and Work Grade 2: 1b: Identify ways in which voice and sounds may be used to create or retell a story in guided drama experiences.

# Instructions:

# Step 1: Gather Materials

Gather two or three paper bags (lunch size) and some newspaper or scrap paper (like the paper that comes in mailing packages, things in the recycling bin, old homework, etc.). You will also need glue or paste, scissors, and something to draw or write with.

You will use one bag as the base for your puppet and the others you will cut up to make all of the texture and details such as the face, hair, ears, tail, etc. You can use the newspaper or another paper that is very different for contrast.



# Step 2: Make Some Decisions

Decide what kind of puppet you wish to make: a person, an animal, an imaginary creature, a texture monster?

Take one of your paper bags and cut it into strips. You can cut some small strips and some larger strips.

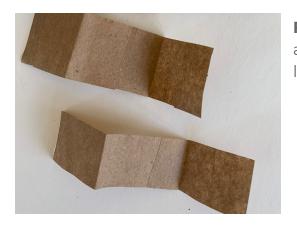
Cut the newspaper into strips as well. Now the fun begins.



Lesson concept and photographs by Diane Egger-Bovet Created for ARTS@Home and the Sonoma Valley Museum of Art Used with permission. All rights reserved.

# Step 3: Experiment

Start by experimenting with different ways you can manipulate the strips of paper bag and newspaper. Some ideas are:



**Fan folding**: Start at one end of the strip and start folding it back and forth until it looks like an accordion.

#### Create a **Fringed** or **Feathered** effect:

Use a ruler to mark lines evenly along the edge of your paper or cut one side of your paper carefully into strips. Stop at least ¼ inch from the edge of your paper so the strips don't come apart!





If you fold a piece of paper in half and then cut it, you will have a piece of paper with a fringe on both sides! Stop at least 1/4" from the fold so that you don't cut it apart. Open it up and see what else you can do with it!



**Scrunching:** Take a long strip and twist or crush it up



# Twisting:

Twist a strip by holding it at both ends and turning it in opposite directions. You can use the twists in straight lines or wrap them up in a spiral.

Curling: Wrap your fringe tightly around a pencil and then let go.

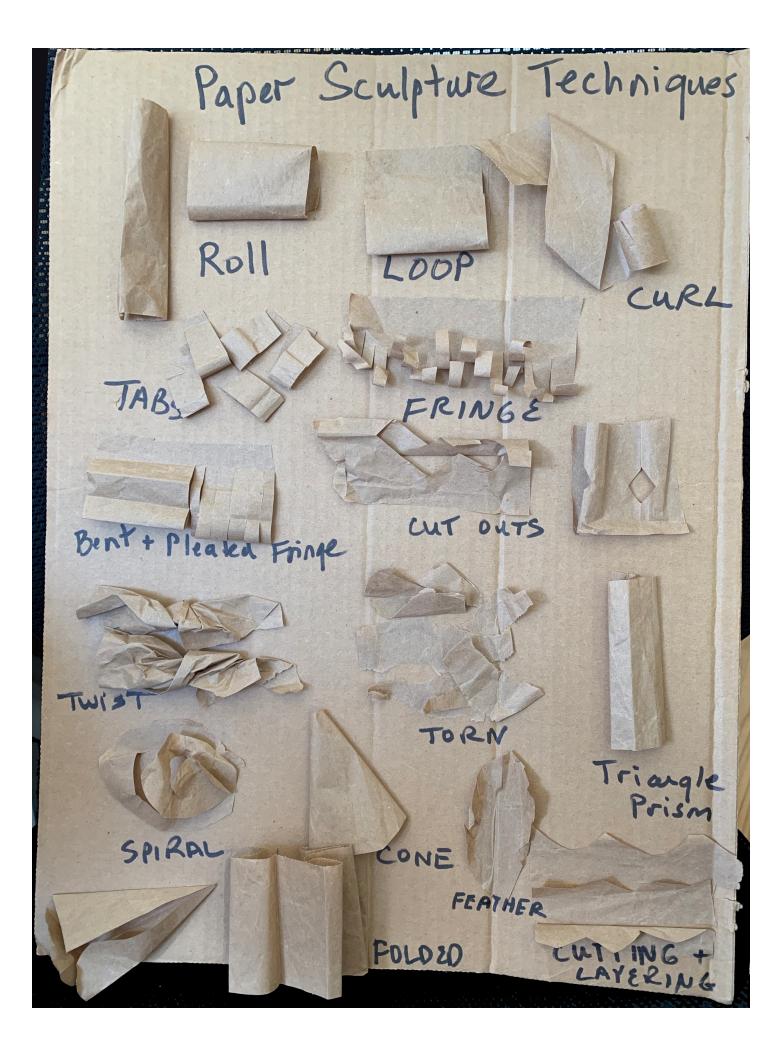




**Tear or Rip**: Use your fingers and rip or tear pieces. Try tearing different directions on the paper.

**Layer:** Cut or tear the strips and start putting one on top of the other.

**Roll:** Make loops, cylinders, and cones out of your paper.



Step 4: Assemble Your Puppet Creation



Put your paper bag on the table with the flap on top. The place where the bottom of your bag folds over is where you will put your hand later to make your puppet's mouth

Start gluing on your strips of paper. Try to put as many kinds of texture on your puppet as possible. You can use your pen/pencil/marker to add details

too. Make a face . . . eyes, nose, mouth, ears, etc. Make sure everything is glued on well.

Decorate the front and the back and the sides if you want to.

#### Go wild and have fun!







Step 5: Puppet Playtime!

- Name your puppet...
- Make your puppet a friend to talk to...
- Draw a puppet portrait and write a story about your puppet's adventures...
- Put on a puppet show!

**Texture** can be a <u>visual</u> thing that you detect only with your eyes. You can't feel it with your hands, but you can use your imagination and pretend!

**Texture** can also be a real-life or <u>actual</u> thing that you feel and touch. Some of the words you might use to describe textures are "soft," "smooth," "satiny," "bumpy," "ridged," "rough," "ripply," "lumpy," "gritty," "bubbly," "feathery,"... and many more!!

What kind of TEXTURE can you find in this photo of the Textured Puppet? What about the puppet you made?



