

Explore Mask-making

Express yourself with a mask!

For thousands of years, humans have made and worn masks for protection, celebration, performance, and ritual. Use the supplies available in your home to make a mask!

Materials

Mask base material—paper, cardboard, paper plate, etc.
Tape or glue
Collage material—paper scraps, magazine cutouts
Markers or crayons
String
Hole puncher
Scissors



Instructions

1. Choose a base for your mask and select other materials to add onto it. What shapes and colors will you use?
2. Fold the piece of paper in half and cut holes along the edges.
3. Unfold the paper to reveal the eye holes, and make sure that you can see out of the mask.
4. If using a firmer mask base, have a family member help measure where the eye and/or mouth holes should be placed before cutting.
5. Glue or tape any quirky materials to your mask to express yourself!
6. Punch a hole on either side and add two strings that tie behind your head.
7. Try your mask on!

Go Further

Cultures all around the world make masks—now or at some point in their history. We love the many masks in our BCM collection, which includes masks from the Dan people in West Africa and the Tlingit people of the Northwest Americas. See if people in your family's lineage have any mask-making traditions!

Share a photo of your mask! Tag us on Instagram @bcmkids #bcmandyou

