



Scrunchy Paper Bag Sculpture

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SCRUNCHY PAPER BAG SCULPTURE



Kia ora everyone,

It's nice to be back and going on another art adventure with you all. This time we are making scrunchy paper bag sculptures. My example is of a manu but really you can use this technique to create any kind of form or shape. Are you ready to take your imagination on a paper bag journey?



You Will Need

A brown paper bag, scissors, wool cotton or string and a needle. Later, for decorating you will need: glue and anything you can think of to add colour or texture such as cereal boxes, chocolate wrappers, white paper, coloured paper. You could even use felts or paint. (Sticks can be very useful for birds' feet)



Step One

Cut the base out of your bag and open the bag up so that you have one long thin piece of paper. Remove the handles also.



Step Two

Wake that paper up!!

Scrunch it up into a ball
un-scrunch it then scrunch
it again!



Step Three

At this point it might be fun to see what shapes you can pull out of your bag. Try twisting your material gently pushing and pulling it with your hands and see what starts to form.

Seeing creatures in the shapes you make can be a bit like seeing shapes in the clouds. What can you see in these shapes I have made? What did you find in your own ball of paper?



Step Four

Making A Manu

To make a manu you will need to now find a basic bird shape in your scrunchy paper

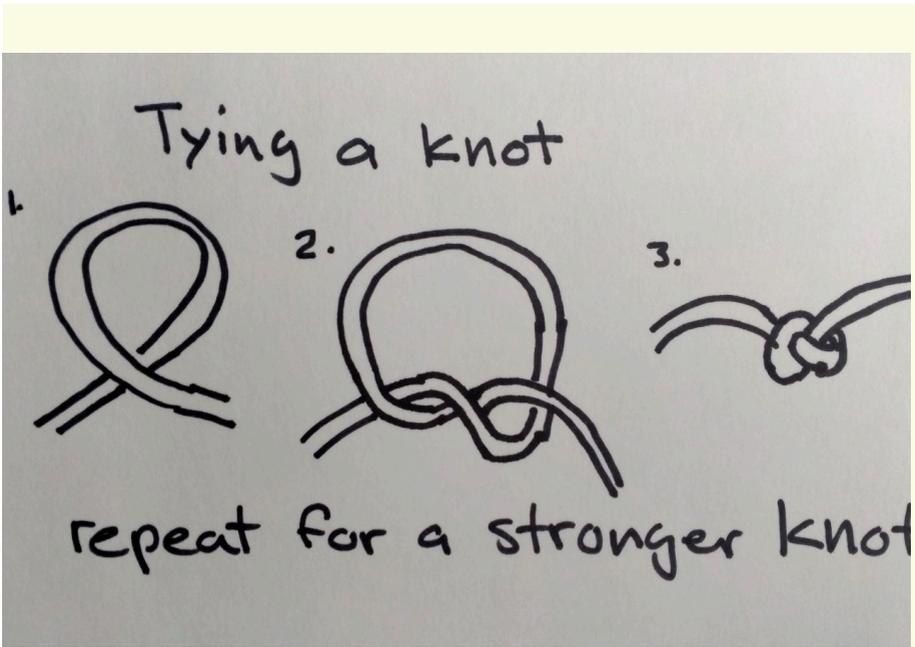
Thinking of the different parts of a bird, beak, head, body and tail (legs can be added later)



Step Five

Now with your wool or string tie a loop around the birds's neck to hold it in place

At this point if you want a larger head try stuffing the head with an extra bit of crunched up paper before you tie it up



Now thread your needle and put some stitches into the paper where ever you think your manu needs to be held together. You may need an adults help with this.

You might be able to think of another way of holding your sculpture in place perhaps using a stapler or glue. Use whatever works for you

I have put stitches underneath the wings of my manu to hold the body together



Make sure to add some string from the top to hang your manu. Test it out by holding it from the top with your fingers first to make sure you get the right point. You want your manu to be balanced when it is hanging.

Be sure to tie knots in all your string ends



Step Six

Decoration

For decoration you can do as much or as little as you like and it can be easier to stick bits on with glue but you can stick to stitching if it suits you

I have used some chocolate bar wrapper folded like a fan to make a tail which I sewed on

The eyes I made out of cut up cereal boxes and glued on

On the underside of the wings, I glued little folded triangles of paper

I also extended the beak with chocolate bar wrapper, now he is looking like a hummingbird



Now Let Your Manu fly!

Hang them from a tree or from the ceiling in your bedroom. It can also be fun to take your Manu for a walk flying it from a string beside you.

Remember each creation will be totally unique especially as you never know what is hiding in your particular paper bag

Here are some other manu I have found in different paper bags and each has their own character

I love to watch them fluttering in the wind

Thanks for joining me on this adventure see you next time

E noho ra

Jean





Jean is a member of the CEAC education team. She is also a practicing artist. She lives with her two boys and partner. Every morning she gets up and jumps on the trampoline to wake herself up.

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