



LESSON 8 LEVEL C MASKS

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN:

designing and making a wearable 3-D paper mask.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

2 pieces of construction paper in contrasting colors, 23 x.30.5 cm. (9"x 12"); scissors; glue; masking tape; paper punch; rubber bands, yarn, or string; (optional: sequins, feathers, glitter, etc.)

"TIPS": Visit a museum or your library to look at the masks of many different world cultures. If your mask is to be worn, be sure to make the eyes large enough to see through.

WORDS TO LEARN:

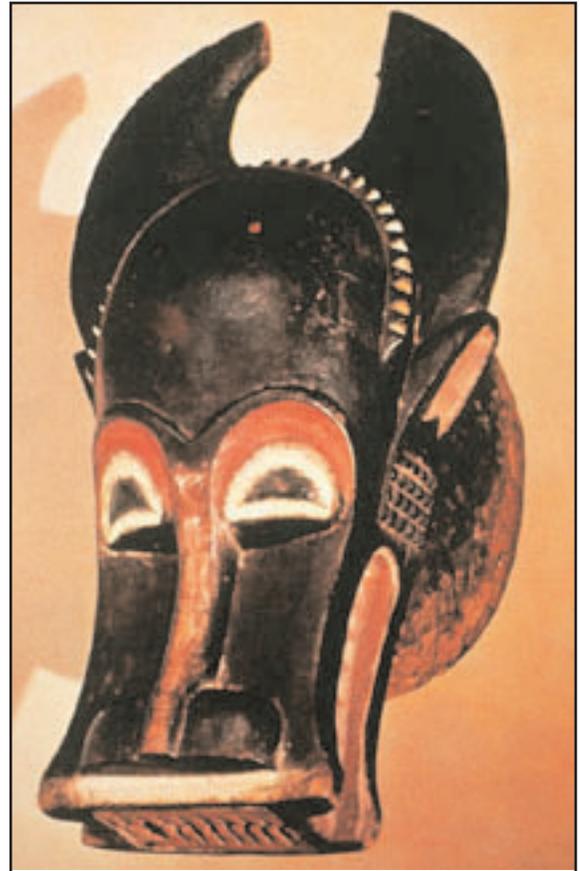
contrasting: having a clear difference, for example: light and dark or rough and smooth

rectangle: a shape with 4 straight sides and square corners

reinforce: to make stronger

costumes. Your mask will be cut from flat paper, but it will become 3-dimensional. Since it is not a mask with special cultural traditions, you are free to decorate it any way you choose. It is called an Echo Mask because the second layer of paper is closely related in shape to the first layer, a visual

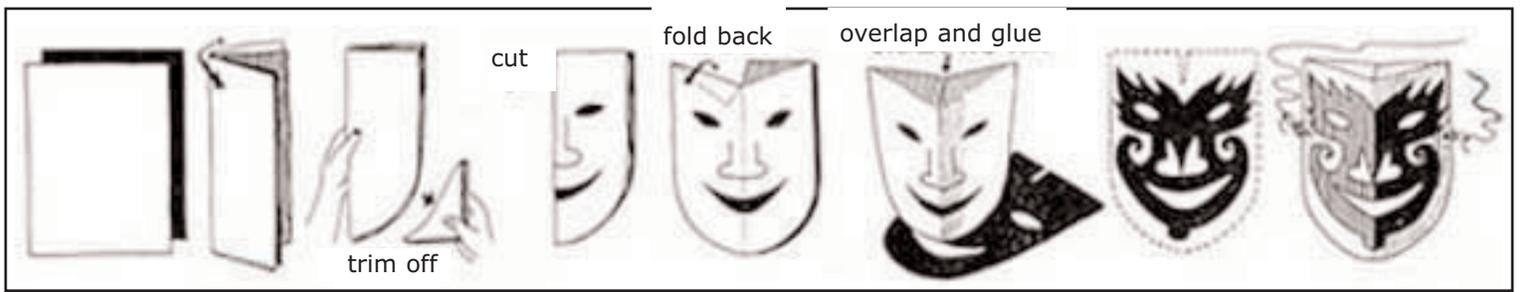
ECHO MASKS: A Paper-Sculpture Disguise



Baule Mask Ivory Coast
Rietberg Museum Zurich

GETTING STARTED: Study a variety of masks from various cultures.. Note that not all of them are to be worn in front of the face. Sometimes they perch on top of the head. Sometimes they cover the whole head, like a helmet. Many are parts of complete





echo. Study the diagrams and follow the steps below.

1. Put two pieces of contrasting colors of construction paper, 23 x 30.5 cm (9"x 12"), one on top of the other. Fold them together into a 11.5 x 15.25 cm (4 1/2" x 12") rectangle. Keep them together to do the steps until you separate them in step 6. *



Tomas Age 12

2. Holding the fold, trim off a curve from the chin to the bottom of where the ear would be.

3. Cut the mouth opening, curving it up or down.

4. Cut around the fold line to make a nose shape, but do not cut across the fold. Leave the top attached so the nose can stick out

5. Use the paper punch to make a starting hole for cutting the eyes. Begin about 1.5 cm (3/4") from the fold, above the nose. Cut rectangles, triangles, circles, or almond shapes for the eyes. Make them large enough to see through.

6. Cut down along the center fold to a point about 3.5 cm (1 1/2") from the top. Fold the papers in on either side of the cut, as in the diagram. Open and separate the papers. * Put one piece of paper aside. Overlap and glue one triangle over the other at the top to give the entire mask a 3-D effect.

7. Fold the other paper which you set aside in half. Cut away parts of it to make a design on the face. Glue the "echo" onto the main color.

8. Reinforce the back of the mask at ear level with bits of masking tape. Punch holes at the sides, through the reinforced places. Then loop rubber bands through the holes and attach pieces of yarn or string for tying the mask behind your head.

9. If you wish, decorate your mask with other materials, for example: sequins, feathers, raffia or metallic papers.

CLEAN UP: Pick up any scraps that fell on the floor. Save usable scraps and discard the rest. Put the rest of the materials away.

TALK ABOUT IT: Put on your mask. See if it allows you to change your personality or mood. Talk as though you are the mask character speaking. Review the mask making process. Tell how you would make the next mask different.

CONNECTIONS: Learn about the roles of masks in modern and historical cultures. Consider the purposes of masks we use in daily life, such as a catcher's mask, a surgical mask, theatrical masks. Why do you think so many cultures have created and used masks?

