

LESSON PLAN TITLE:

## Masks and Headdresses

By Melissa Maxfield-Miranda



MATERIALS:

Newspaper strips, paper mache glue, colored tissue paper, pencils, markers, paper, balloons, bowls, masking tape, glue, hot glue, cardboard scraps, construction paper, tempera paint, brushes, water containers, feathers, beads, yarn, hole punch.

OBJECTIVES:

Students will construct using paper mache techniques to form a strong concave form on which to build their mask. Students will use their problem solving skills in how to connect this mask from a historical context to something that might resonate with them personally.

ANTICIPATORY SET (LEAD-IN, ACTIVATING PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE, "HOOK"):

Slide presentation of masks from North American Tribal Indians, Mayan Indigenous cultures and contemporary Native American Artists who make masks. Also, actual examples of masks from Haiti, Thailand and Seminole to be on view or passed around. Teacher's example and demonstration.

STEP-BY-STEP PROCEDURE:

(Day 1)

1. Students will each receive a balloon where they draw a line distinguishing half of the balloon and write their name.
2. Students will use a bowl to hold their balloon for stability once application of newspaper strips and paper mache glue gets applied in layers.
3. Students will repeat adding newspaper strips with mache glue until desired thickness of at least 5/16" is achieved. (or until balloon does not remain "crunchy" feeling or gives under major pressure)

(Day 2)

4. Students will pull off paper mache or pop balloon and use masking tape to secure and smooth their edges so that they are even.
5. Students will choose areas they wish to cut out and have an adult help them with precision, use masking tape to smooth and secure layers of cut away newspaper strips.
6. Students will paint using tissue paper in layers to cover and decorate their mask.
7. Students can use feathers, beads, construction paper, etc. to exaggerate or build upon their mask to add forms and textures using glue. Students may also get assistance with hot glue.
8. Students can choose to wear mask or have it be hanging. Using a hole punch and string, a way to hang may be formed.

