

Animal Masks

Introduction

One of our themes this month is 'animals in the wild', based on the stories in Rudyard Kipling's 'The Jungle Book'. Here we have a fun way to enjoy art and craft by making animal masks. These we then use in this month's music and movement activity.

Masks can cause problems. Many people find wearing a mask quite confining at the best of times. This feeling increases with age and with the onset of dementia. So, we suggest not wearing these as full-face masks with elastic to strap round the head. Instead, attach them to light plastic utensils – spatulas from the kitchen or fly-swats. They can then be held in front of the face, or even held at arm's length and waved. This keeps it as a fun, rather than a frightening or anxiety-making, experience!

You Will Need

- White card
- Pencils
- Scissors
- Wax crayons, felt-tip pens and coloured pencils
- Paints
- Sticky tape
- Light plastic utensils such as fly-swats



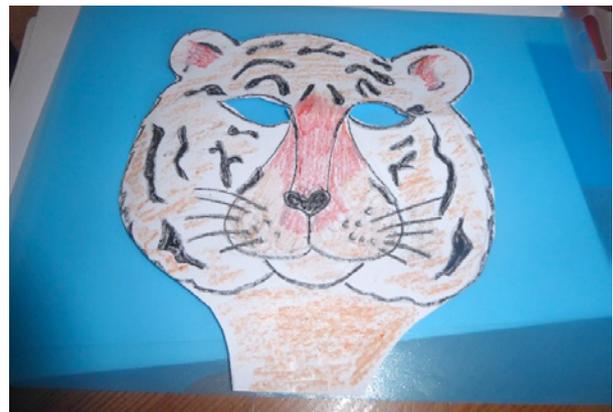
Risk Assess

Care with scissors.

What To Do

The first part does need some artistic ability! Ask around the staff – there will be someone good at drawing. Draw the faces of animals in pencil or black felt-tip. Make them about 30cm x 30cm. They should be easily recognisable, so not too detailed. We have drawn a tiger, monkey, bear and a wolf – be creative and draw other animal faces. You can, of course, have as many of one animal as you wish!

Photocopy the templates of the animal faces onto white card. Cut out holes to look through.



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What To Do (continued)

Colour in or paint them during a craft session. These have been coloured in with wax crayons.

Carefully cut round the outline of the faces. Write the name of the animal on the back.

Tape them on to the end of the plastic utensils or fly-swats.

These can also be used for the Discussion Sheet about 'The Jungle Book' and the Music and Movement sheet for December.

