

INV. 2 ACTIVITY—DESCRIBE HOW A BOX IS MADE

.....

Ask your child to detail to you how a box is made from tree to box. Help them to sequence the process by providing some sentence starters such as:

1. A box starts out as a _____.
2. The tree is cut and brought to the _____.
3. The tree is chopped to make _____.
4. The sawdust is soaked in water to make _____.
5. The pulp is flattened and dried to make _____.
6. The paper is put on a roll and made into _____.
7. The cardboard is cut and folded into a _____.

INV. 2 ACTIVITY—MAKING PAPER MACHE

Create a paper mache bowl

Materials

- Newspaper and plain paper
- Flour and water
- Bowls or recycled 1/2 liter container

Suggested procedures

- Mix one part flour and one part water in a bowl and stir it really well. You want the mixture to be similar to pancake batter. Keep mixing until there are very few lumps left. If you have lots of lumps you can use a whisk or hand-held blender to remove any remaining lumps.
If you live in an area of high humidity you can add a few teaspoons of salt to prevent mold. If you don't like the smell add a pinch of cinnamon. You can store this paper-mache paste in a covered bowl or jar in the refrigerator for a few days. As an alternative you can use white glue with water to make the paste.
- Prepare the newspaper strips. Fold a few times and cut into long strips. Try to make them even. They can be about one-two inches wide.
- Find a small to medium size bowl you can work with and turn upside down.
- Dip one piece of newspaper strip at a time into the paper mache paste. You want the newspaper strip to be saturated. Hold the saturated strip over the paste bowl and run it through your fingers to squeeze off any excess paste.
- Stick the newspaper strip over your upside down bowl and smooth it down with your fingers. Completely cover your form with a layer of the saturated newspaper strips. They should all be over-lapping and running in different directions.
- After one layer is applied, let it dry completely. This can take up to 24 hours. Once the first layer is dry, apply a second layer of newspaper strips and let it dry completely.
- Repeat this process until you get the desired look, but you should have at least three layers of newspaper strips. Again, let each layer dry completely. You don't usually need more than four layers.
- The final layer can be plain paper, making it easier to paint. Follow the same procedure. Let it dry and then paint it. Once dry take it off your upside down bowl. You can now paint the inside of your paper mache bowl too.