Wet Strength Tissue Paper Cups

By Jan Miller



Introduction

Wet strength tissue is an alternative to papier-mache. Its quick drying time and strength with just one layer allows even the youngest children to produce a successful 3-dimensional model that looks good even before colour is added. It is suited to any ink and paints and for older children there are possibilities to create inexpensive, large-scale lightweight structures using a skeletal framework from wire or willow withies. Unlike traditional tissue paper (that very quickly turns to mush when wet), wet strength tissue is designed to take a glue solution and just a couple of layers is all that is needed to build a very strong large structure. Unlike mod-roc it remains lightweight, is quick to apply as well as dry. I particularly like the translucent effect, seeing the structure within.

Modelling is an exciting process which is a great way to experiment and explore. The technique of card and a tissue skin will reach out to all ages and can be easily adapted to suit different levels of ability, lending itself well to many themes and curriculum areas and children will enjoy the exciting outcomes that wet strength tissue can offer!

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What We Like About This Resource....

"This project provides a real opportunity for children to engage with a range of different processes to produce truly individual final results. Jan Miller is an experienced teacher and connects her projects well with learning outcomes. In this case, children are encouraged to have a loose approach and to make their own creative decisions — which is such a valuable part of any child (or adults!) creative education". — Rachel, AccessArt

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What We Like About This Resource….

"The sentiment behind this resource idea is lovely and it provides an opportunity to really develop some fine motor skills as well as independence of approach. Taking ownership of the medal design means the sense of achievement is heightened beyond the children just being given one. You can really imagine the positive energy that would surround this activity within a classroom, with each child working on a shared project but embarking on their own creative journey." – Rachel, AccessArt

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Unesco: Celebrating the Power of Making!

Inspired by Paula's recent rousing film, 'It's in Our Hands', artist Jan Miller pulled images together from her own teaching to illustrate the things the children in her classroom do with their hands

Children's Community Project

Santa comes in all Shapes and Sizes: Yr 3 Make Bouncing Santas!

A fun end of term project that would also be perfect to do at home — making model Santas with character! Jan Miller share a process to make 3D model Santas using simple materials and processes. This activity can be used with children aged 7 to 14 (any KS, 2, 3 children).

All That Glitters...

Teacher and artist Jan Miller shows year three pupils works by the artist Andrew Logan. Pupils then have fun playing with materials that glitter and sparkle, developing their design and making skills to produce personalised brooches, decorative images of celebrities and gorgeous treasure glitter boards. Finally, they explore portrait drawing, creating a sparkly 'selfie'!

Japanese Sushi Inspires Our Art

Jan Miller leads a project enabling children to explore materials and learn from another culture by creating colourful, large-scale mixed media drawings inspired by food from Japan. This activity is suitable for older KS1 and KS2 children.

Japan – Ceramics Inspire Painting and Painting Inspires Ceramics

Jan Miller shares a class project that uses the work of a contemporary Japanese ceramicist to inspire vibrant paintings in a variety of materials. The children then used their own

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Japan: Making Sushi Recycled Style!

Inspired by research into Japanese culture, children explored the potential and limitations of paper and recycled materials, learning through play and experimentation to make 3D forms. The outcomes of this process were used to inform work created in a second medium of clay, using kitchen equipment to shape the clay and add textures.

7 & 8 Year Olds Explore MonoPrinting & Oil Painting

Making Papier-Mache Marionette Puppets Inspired by Characters in a Historical Painting

Year three children make marionette puppets to tell the story illustrated in of "Penelope with the Suitors" by Pintoricchio in 1509 with their teacher Jan Miller.