



Little Angel Theatre Presents

Handa's Surprise

Adapted from the book by Eileen Browne



Education Pack



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Handa's Surprise

The Story

Handa's Surprise, the much loved children's book by Eileen Browne, is brought to life through puppetry, music and dance by the Little Angel Theatre. This beautiful production, set in the warmth and colour of a Kenyan village, recounts the gentle story of a young girl, *Handa*, taking fruits in a basket to her friend *Akeyo*. The show, directed by Marleen Vermuelen of *Tam Tam Theatre*, is designed for children from the ages 2-5 years.

Handa sets out on her colourful journey with seven different fruits in a basket on her head, but along the way the fruits are stolen by various mischievous animals – a monkey, an ostrich, zebra, giraffe, elephant, antelope and a parrot. Handa continues on, unaware the basket is now empty, until a goat charges into a tangerine tree and fills her basket with a bunch of juicy tangerines. When she meets Akeyo she is more surprised to find her basket is full of tangerines, not the other fruits she brought along, but Akeyo is delighted because tangerines are her favourite fruit.

Handa's surprise is a charming and funny show full of songs, sounds, dance and rhythm, featuring beautifully carved rod and hand puppets and songs sung in Swahili. The warm coloured African setting, music and characters provide an enchanting introduction to African culture. Like the book the show is wonderfully positive and educational, teaching children things like counting, names of fruits and animals, and the importance of friendship.



Story Sequence

Handa puts seven delicious fruits in her basket for her friend Akeyo.

A banana, a guava, an orange, a mango, a pineapple, an avocado and a passion fruit.

She will be surprised, thought Handa, as she set off for Akeyo's village.

I wonder which fruit she'll like the best?

Will she like the soft yellow banana...

A monkey swoops down and takes the banana.

Or the sweet smelling guava...

An ostrich creeps through the long grass and takes the guava.

Will she like the round juicy orange...

A zebra creeps through the long grass and takes the orange.

Or the ripe red mango...

An elephant creeps through the long grass and takes the mango.

Will she like the spikey leafed pineapple...

A giraffe creeps through the long grass and takes the pineapple.

The creamy green avocado...

An antelope creeps through the long grass and takes the avocado.

Or the tangy purple passion fruit...

A parrot creeps through the long grass and takes the passion fruit.

Which fruit will Akeyo like the best?

A goat breaks free from a nearby post and rams into the trunk of a tangerine tree. The tangerines tumble from the tree and fill up[Handa's empty basket.

"Hello Akeyo" said Handa. "I've brought you a surprise."

Handa waves to her friend Akeyo in the village.

"Tangerines" said Akeyo. "My favourite fruit."

Handa passes the basket to Akeyo.

"Tangerines?" said Handa. "That is a surprise!"

Animal Finger Puppets

Let Your Fingers Play!

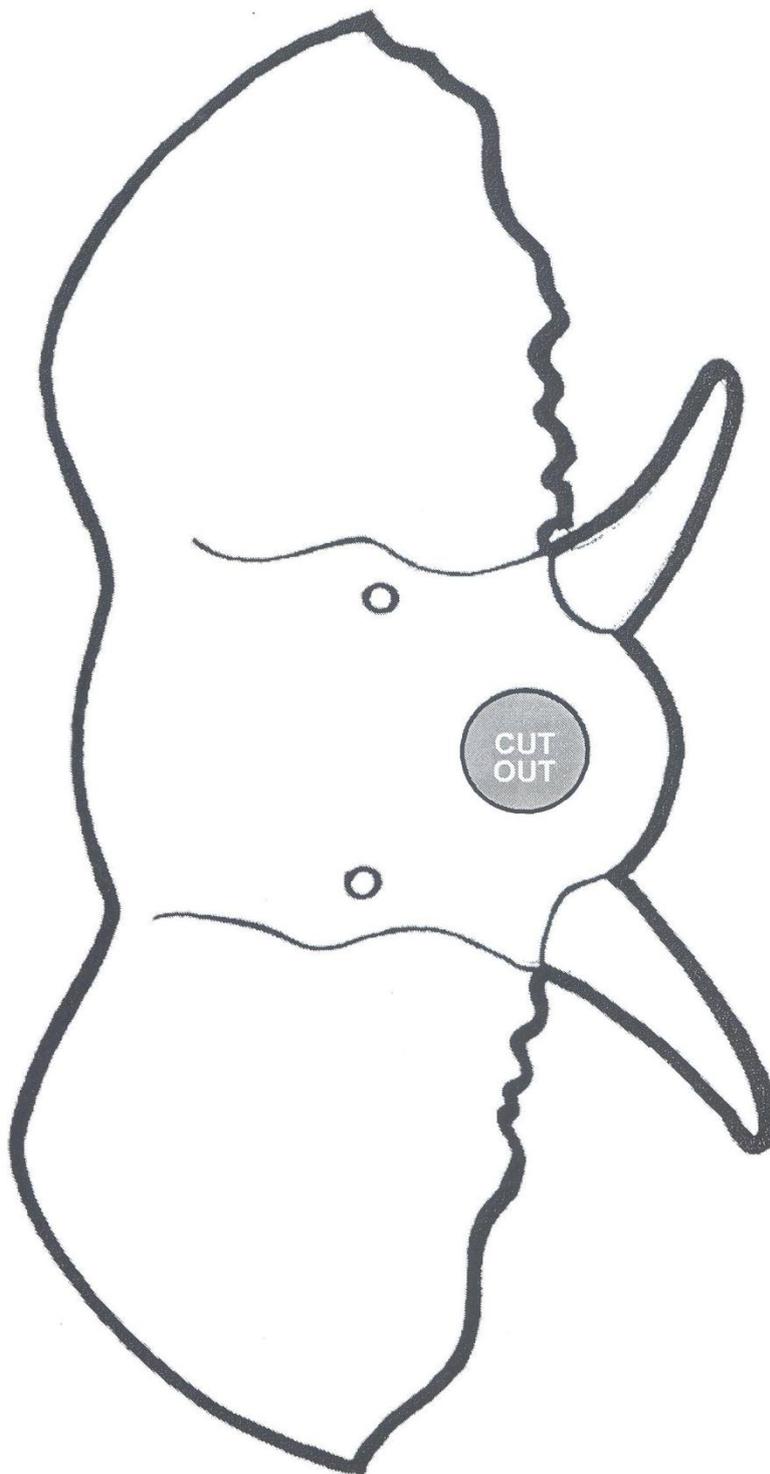
On the next four pages are some templates which you can use to make 8 Finger puppets.

Instructions

1. Trace or photocopy the designs onto thin card.
2. Colour in all the animals.
3. Now cut them out around the thick black outlines.
4. Follow the instructions on each puppet to finish them.

Have Fun !

Animal Finger Puppets



Elephant

How long is my trunk ?



Animal Finger Puppets

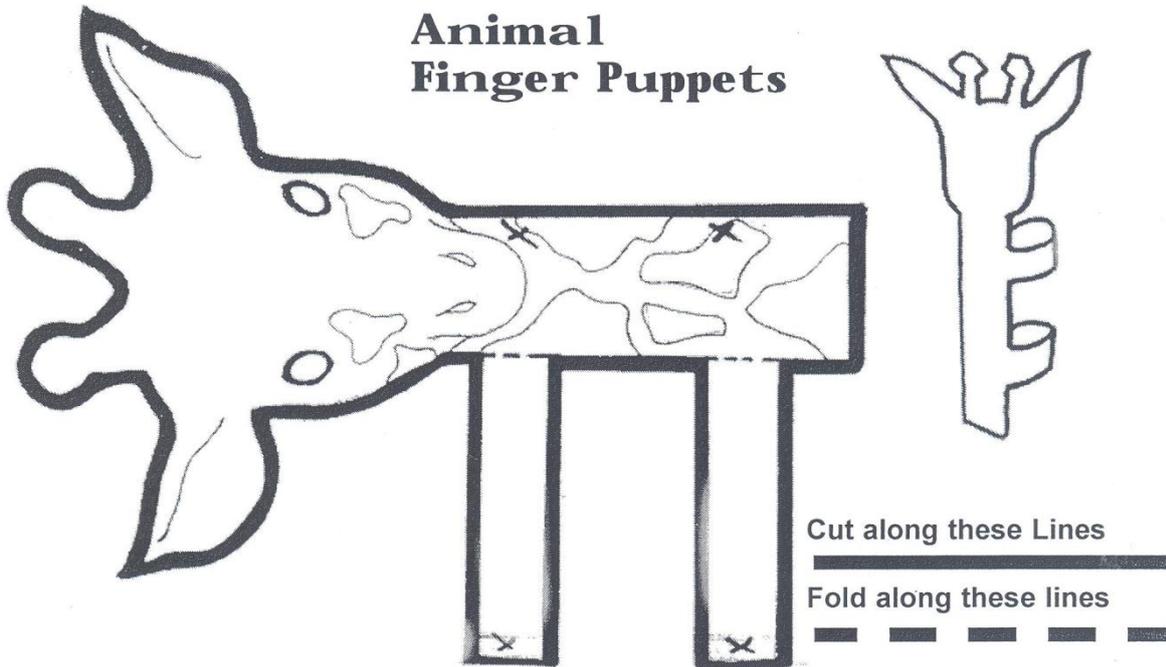


Parrot
See me fly

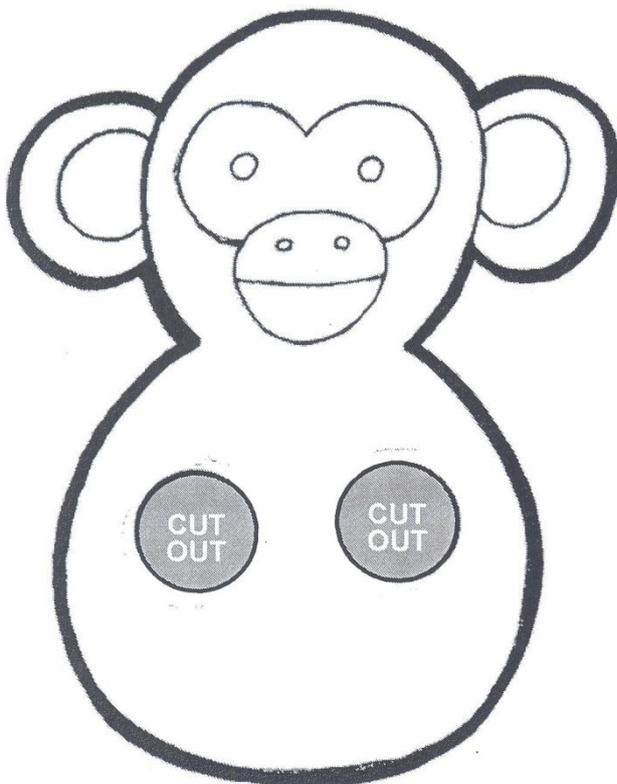


Animal Finger Puppets

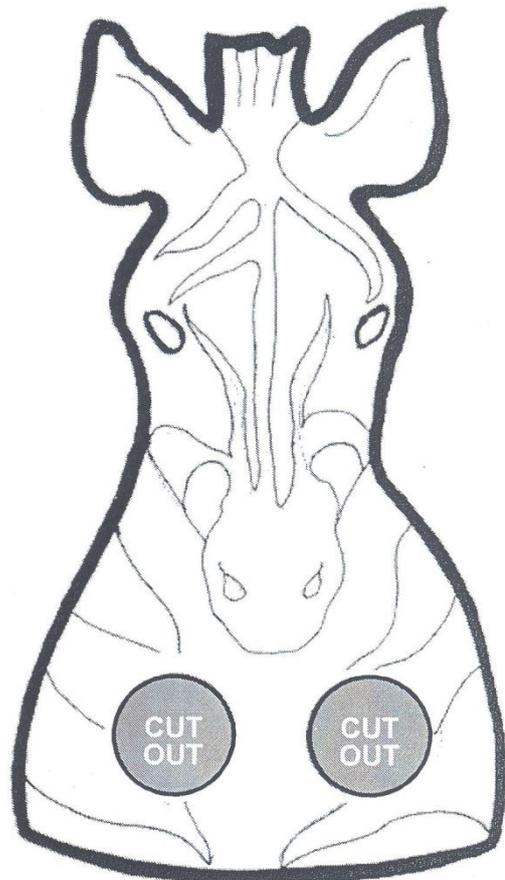
Animal Finger Puppets



giraffe
How high can I stretch



Monkey
See me swing

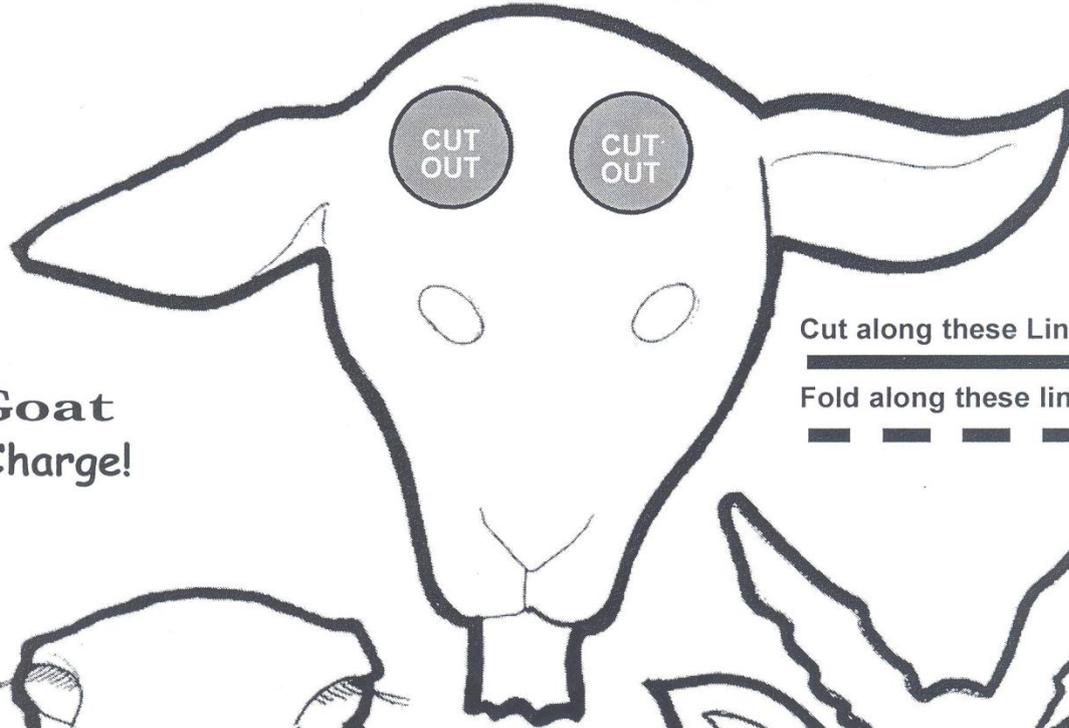


zebra
See me run



Animal Finger Puppets

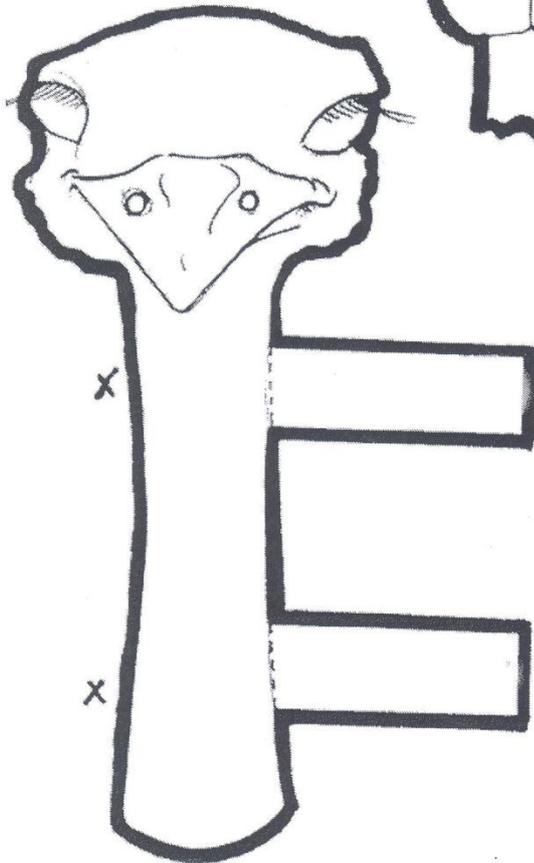
Animal Finger Puppets



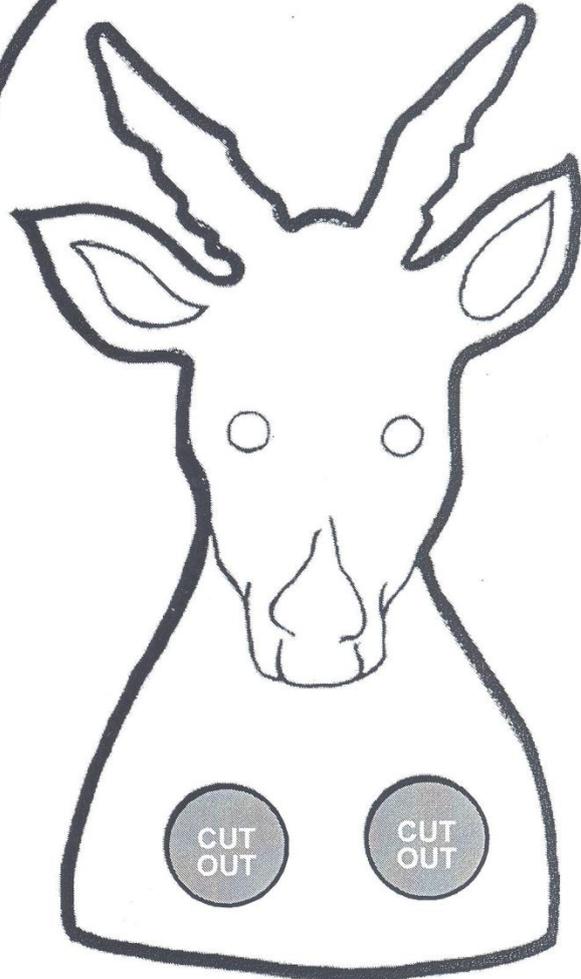
Goat
Charge!

Cut along these Lines

Fold along these lines



Ostrich
How Long is my Neck



Antelope
Catch me if you can

Make an African Mask

Make an African Mask

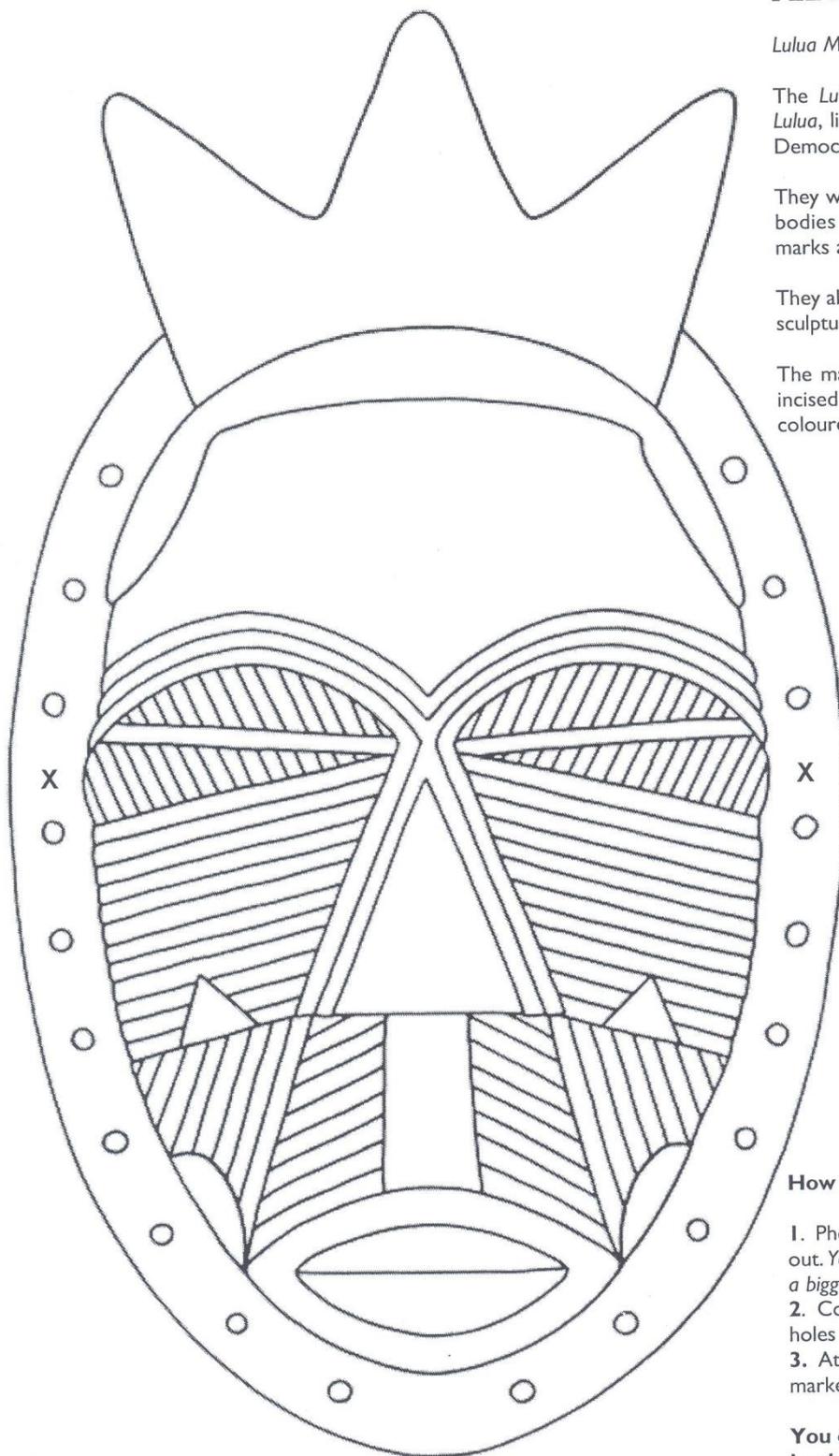
Lulua Mask

The *Lulua*, previously called the *Bena Lulua*, live around the *Lulua River* in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

They were famous for decorating their bodies with intricate scarification marks and tattoos.

They also applied these designs to their sculptures and masks.

The masks, which are rare, are usually incised with geometric pattern and coloured with a reddish pigment.



How to Make Your Mask

1. Photocopy onto thin card and cut out. You can blow the mask up if you want a bigger design
2. Colour in the design and cut out holes for your eyes.
3. Attach some string at the points marked x so you can tie on your mask.

You can get more ideas and download designs at:

www.artyfactory.com/africanmasks



Masquerade Parade

Masquerade Parade



This mask-making activity will unmask children's creativity! Ages 3 - 5

Materials:

- paper plates
- elastic thread
- brown or white craft paper
- markers, poster paint, brushes
- white craft glue
- child safety scissors

Materials to Decorate Masks

including construction paper, tissue paper, foil, pipe cleaners, feathers, pom-poms, and yarn or string. pictures of animals from books or magazines.

Objective:

Children will work together to create costumes and plan an animal masquerade parade. This activity will help develop social interactions and creative- thinking, fine-motor, and observation skills.

Curriculum Connection

Cooking: Masquerade Parade Foods. Children can assist in preparing and planning special foods to serve to celebrate their animal masquerade parade.

Use prepared or a favorite biscuit dough recipe to make animal biscuits. Give all of the children biscuit dough to "sculpt" biscuits, or use animal cutters.

Use tropical fruit juice, and fresh fruit to make Savannah Slurp.

Activity

1. Show children pictures of different types of animals and explain that they will work together to plan an animal masquerade parade. Give children time to look at the different pictures and to choose a favourite animal or animal the interests them.

2. Invite small groups of children to work at the art area and create an animal mask and costume to wear for the parade. Give each child a paper plate to use for the mask-making activity (*see page 13 for ideas*). Measure and cut out the eyeholes and mouth area for each child. (Remember: It is very important to make sure that the eyeholes on the children's masks are large enough for them to see clearly.) Set out art materials and talk with children about the different features of the animals they are making. What shape is the nose or ears? Does it have spots or stripes? What materials can be used to make whiskers or hair? The children can use paper plates or white paper to bend into beaks or ears.

3. Make two small holes on either side of the children's mask even with the eyes and attach elastic string to one side of the mask. Place the masks on the children's faces and measure the amount of thread needed to secure them.

4. Children can make costumes for the parade using brown or white craft paper. Cut a large sheet of paper for each child to wear like a poncho.

Ask the children to think of the things that they will need to create their animal body.

What color paints will they use?

Are there collage materials that they would like to apply to the paper?

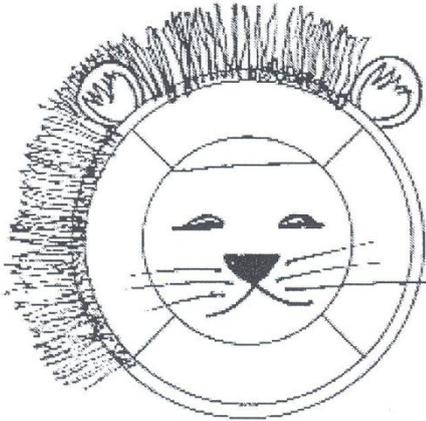
Assist the children in gathering the materials and colours they will need to create their costumes.

5. Read a book to the children about animal movements, such as *Jiggle, Wiggle, Prance* by Sally Noll. Ask the children to put on their animal costumes and think of how their animal moves its body. Choose music or favorite animal songs and invite everyone to create an animal movement dance.

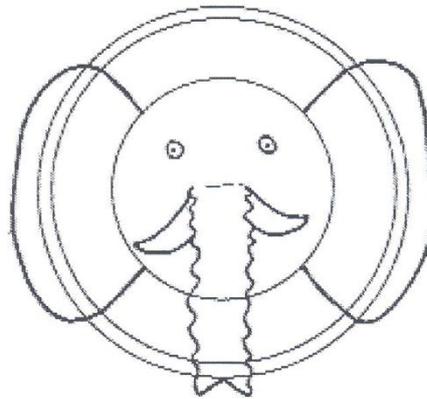
Now let the Animal Masquerade Parade begin!



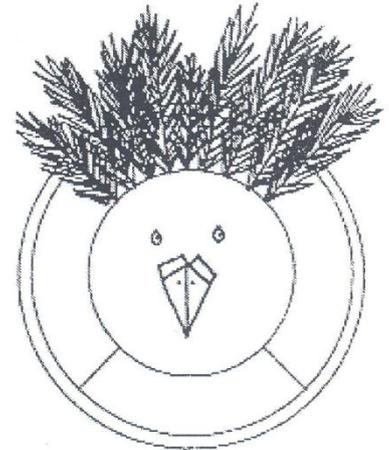
Paper Plate Masks



Add a Paper fringe or Raffia to make a mane for a lion mask.



Add a trunk and two big ears for an elephant.



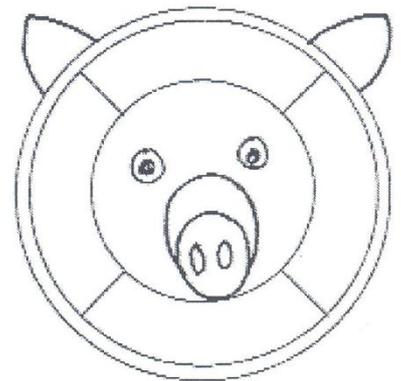
Add a beak and glue on some feathers for a bird mask.



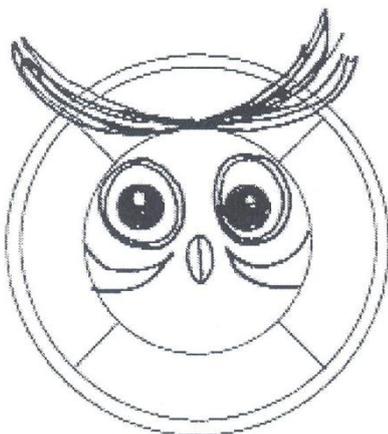
Add two black eyes for a panda mask.



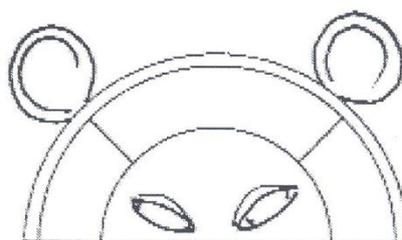
Paint on some black stripes for a zebra mask .



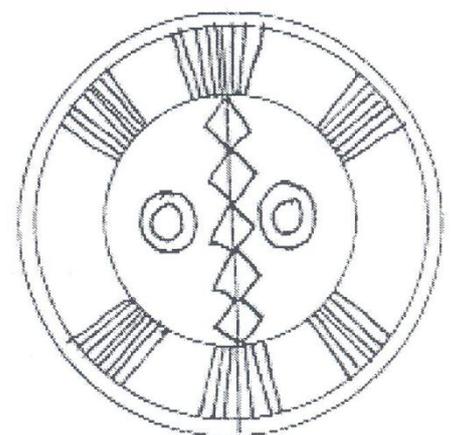
Glue on a paper cup for a pig mask.



Paint two big eyes and glue on a small triangle to make an owl mask .



Cut plate in half for a half face mask.



Paint on African designs to create a fantasy mask.