

MYSTERIOUS MASKS

Don't these two young quilters look fantastic in their mysterious masks!!

Why not have a go at making your own?

Many thanks to Annette Collinge who designed this workshop.



You will need:

- Paper to make your mask pattern
- Felt or similar firm fabric
- Large-pocket bubble wrap
- Decorations for your mask such as sequins, tiny beads, fabric or thread scraps, buttons
- Iron and baking parchment to protect it
- Sewing machine
- Basic sewing kit

*****This project involves using a hot iron to melt the bubble wrap and as well as scissors and a sewing machine – make sure you ask an adult for help before you start.*****

What to do:

- First think about the shape of the mask you would like to make. There is a suggested pattern on the last page of these instructions – you can use this or make your own. Draw shapes on paper, cut them out and try them for size. Make sure you allow for holes for your eyes and don't forget your nose.
- When you are happy with your mask shape, cut it out from paper and use it as a pattern.
- Pin your pattern to a firm fabric, such as felt and cut it out. This will be the back of your mask.

- Lay a piece of large pocket bubble wrap over your mask, with the flat surface upwards.
- Look at the shapes made by the bubble wrap pockets. You can find circles, triangles, diamond shapes. You might like to position one of these centrally on your mask.
- Decide on which bubble wrap pockets are going to form your design and slit the back of the pockets with sharp scissors.
- Stuff the pockets with sequins, tiny beads, fabric or thread scraps, buttons, or anything else you can think of. Pockets can be stuffed full or contain just one object. A plastic coffee stirrer is useful for pushing objects in place.
- Take your bubble wrap away from the mask backing and sandwich it between sheets of baking parchment.
- Use a hot iron to flatten and melt the bubble wrap. Turn it over and repeat. Some of your inserted objects will melt, others will not, but the bubble wrap will be flattened, trapping your objects.
- Peel the flattened bubble wrap away from the baking parchment and allow it to cool.
- Pin the bubble wrap to your mask backing and cut it out to the shape of your mask. You might want to leave some of the bubble wrap, so that it forms horns, ears, spikes etc. to make your mask more dramatic. Cut out eye holes.
- Using a sewing machine with a zigzag stitch, stitch the backing and the bubble wrap together, working round the edge and the eye holes. You will find you can stitch bubble wrap without a backing, but not all sewing machines like to do this!
- You might like to stitch straight lines over your mask, or you can try free motion stitching and work round the circles on the bubble wrap. If you haven't got a sewing machine, just stitch the whole mask with hand stitching.
- Decorate your mask with hand stitching. Try straight stitches, French knots or couch down thick threads. Sew on buttons, sequins, beads or fabric or paper

scraps. When you are happy with your mask.....

- Make a hole on each side of the mask and tie narrow ribbons or strings to hold it in place.
- Your mask is now complete.

