

Create Cardboard Wings

Explore wing shapes and create your own wearable wings!

Wings come in many different sizes, shapes, colors, and materials. Each kind of wing helps an animal or vehicle fly in a particular way, such as soaring, hovering, or diving.



Materials Needed:

Cardboard pieces, scissors, tape, ribbon, large binder or kitchen clip, decorating materials (tissue paper, paint, markers, yarn, etc.)

Instructions:

Step 1: Look at the pictures of winged animals and vehicles on the next page. What kinds of shapes do you see? Choose what kind of wings to make!

Step 2: Measure the length from your shoulder to fingertips. Trace a wing shape on a piece of cardboard to match the length, and cut out the shape.

Hint: If the piece of cardboard is not long enough, tape two pieces together.

Step 3: Using the first wing as a template, trace the shape on the second piece of cardboard to create a second matching wing. Place the template face-down so the wings are mirror images of each other.

Step 4: Decorate your wings. Use any craft materials you have. Make your wings look realistic, or use your imagination!

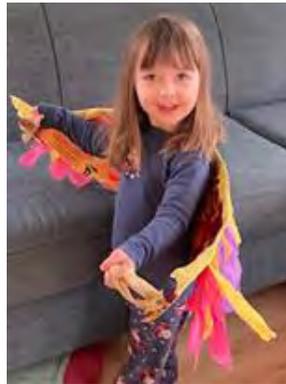


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Step 5: Attach the shoulder sides of the wings to each other using heavy duty tape. Attach a piece of ribbon in a loop to each wing tip. You can also attach ribbons to the shoulders as additional support, if needed.



Step 6: Test out your wings! Use a binder or kitchen clip to clip the back of the wings to your clothes. Use the ribbon loops to flap the wings, and adjust to fit.



Try This:

- Make cardboard wings in different shapes. Flap the wings, and notice how they feel different. How do different wing shapes affect how an animal or vehicle flies?
- Tell a story about your animal or vehicle. Where is it flying? What adventures has it had?
- Look up more information about your animal or vehicle. What other ways do they use their wings (camouflage, communicate, staying warm or cool, etc.)?

Explore Wings

From bats to dragonflies, animals have adapted to fly with many different types of wings. Can you see the different shapes?



Trumpeter Swans



Rufous Hummingbird



Dragonfly



Tiger Swallowtail Butterfly



Flying Fish



Ladybug



Little Brown Bat



Pteranodon

Humans don't have wings, but we build aircraft inspired by nature!



Hang Glider



Float Plane



Space Shuttle

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