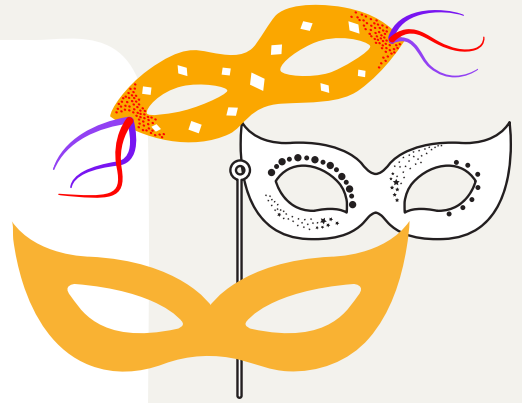


# Making Carnival Masks

3 years +

## What you Need

- Glue, scissors, and tape
- Colored markers, crayons, or paint
- Feathers, sequins, glitter, and other decorative materials
- Masks Kit (optional)
- Print off of the activity on cardstock (optional if you buy mask kit)
- Popsicle sticks
- Elastic strings or sticks for holding the masks



## YouTube Tutorial



## What we will do

1. Share a simplified history of carnival in the Caribbean, emphasizing its roots. Mention how it became a celebration of freedom, expression, and cultural diversity. Highlight key elements such as masquerade, music, and vibrant costumes. Here is a [start](#).
2. Designing the Masks: Let the children unleash their creativity by designing their carnival masks. Encourage them to use bright colors, patterns, and imaginative designs. Mention that masks often represent characters or themes related to folklore, mythology, or personal expression. Also, consider speaking about the masquerading portion of the Carnival that mocks the colonizers as an act of resistance.
3. Decorating: Once the basic designs are complete, start building the pizzazz with feathers, sequins, glitter, and other decorative materials. Explain that elaborate and eye-catching masks are a significant part of Caribbean carnival costumes. Encourage them to be as creative as possible.
4. Assembling: Assist the children in assembling their masks. If using paper or cardboard, help them attach the elastic strings or sticks for easy wearing. Ensure that the masks are secure and comfortable. You can also use popsicle sticks to create handhelds.
5. Show and Tell: Once the masks are ready, have a "show and tell" session where each child can briefly explain the inspiration behind their mask. Encourage them to share any stories or ideas they had while creating it. This is how we maintain the roots of Carnival.
6. Parade and Celebration: Organize a mini-parade or showcase where the children can proudly wear their carnival masks. Play lively music to create a festive atmosphere and celebrate the creativity and diversity of their designs.
7. Parents make sure you make one too!!





