

# Kids Explore!



## Make A Wild Critter Mask

Top off a home-made costume with a recycled milk jug mask.

### Materials

- ◆ One gallon plastic milk jug
- ◆ Sharp scissors or a pocket knife
- ◆ Hole punch
- ◆ Glue
- ◆ Short piece of elastic
- ◆ Decorating materials: colored paper, fabric scraps, ribbon, dried grass, lichen, pipe cleaners, etc.
- ◆ Permanent markers (optional)

*Adult help may be needed on steps with* ⇒

- ⇒ 1. Use scissors or a pocket knife to cut off the pouring spout of your jug. Cut the jug in half so the handle is in the center of one side. Trim the edges.
2. Choose one half of the jug for your mask.

The handle makes a good beak or nose. The big circles on the sides of some jugs make nice eyes. Look at a picture of an animal such as a raccoon or a mouse for design ideas.

⇒ 3. Hold your half jug over your face and have someone mark the eye holes. Take the jug off your face and carefully cut eye holes.

4. Poke small holes in the mask if you want whiskers, antennae, or hair. Push ribbon, pipe cleaners, dried grasses, or lichen into the holes.

5. Use fabric scraps, natural materials, and colored paper to make eye markings, feathers, fur, scales, ears, and

other animal parts.

Permanent markers also work well on plastic milk jugs for decorating.

6. Punch a hole in each side of the mask, close to the ears. Thread elastic through each side, cut ends facing in. Adjust the mask so it fits snugly and knot the ends of the elastic.

7. For extra fun, dress the rest of your body up to match the animal mask you have created!

