



MINGLED MASK

A RECYCLING COMPETITION FOR 6TH GRADERS

USING THE TIMELINE FOR TRASHformations
sponsored by the Madison County Recycling Program

There has always been a sense of mystery and magic surrounding masks. A mask can hide the identity of a person, while at the same time, giving that person a complete new identity. Masks have been used throughout the world since the Stone Age. Mask makers have shown great resourcefulness by using shells, fibers, stones, feathers, animal furs, cloth and even corn husks.

This competition allows the “mask maker” to reuse items that would normally be left-overs, trash or recyclables for the mask. The mask can start as a plaster form or even a milk jug. The same rules for the original TRASHformations apply to the mask competition only this competition is **ONLY FOR 6TH GRADERS**. The judging form will be the same.

Suggestions for masks can be as original as a self portrait, or as diverse as a disguise. Animal faces make great masks. A great story to introduce mask making is Lynne Cherry's book, “**The Great Kapok Tree**.” A man walks into the forest to cut down a tree and falls asleep. One by one a rainforest animal comes to the man and tells him why the tree is important and shouldn't be cut down. The man awakes, puts down his ax and walks out of the forest. The pictures in this book are tremendous and it is a great story about the rainforest. Each student could choose an animal from the story and make a mask. The whole class could do the story as a play.

There are many websites that will help the student decide which medium to use for the mask. They could use cardboard boxes or even old elections signs!

- <http://www.papiermache.co.uk/tutorials/make-a-papier-mache-mask/> - **uses both a milk jug and shredded newspaper with flour, salt and water paste.**
- <http://www.allspecies.org/edu/maskmaking.htm> - **is a very detailed site that could be used in an art classroom setting**
- http://www.indianchild.com/mask_making.htm - **uses modeling clay**
- <http://www.deepcreektimes.com/kids/june2002.html> - **uses a balloon and newspaper and flour glue**
- http://www.gaston.k12.nc.us/resources/teachers/webquests/Safari/process_masks.htm - **milk jug masks**
- <http://home.howstuffworks.com/paper-masks1.htm> - **papier mache**