PROJECT 1: CLAY MONSTERS

PREPARATION:
1. This is a multi-day project. Air dry clay takes 2-3 days to dry completely.
2. The sculpting part of this is a little messy, but easy to clean up. Work on a clean, waterproof surface such as a table or counter top. Or use plastic or tinfoil to protect the surface if need be.
3. The painting part can be messy too. Lay down newspaper before painting to keep your work surface clean!

SCULPT A MONSTER:
4. Picture the monster you want to build. It can be silly or scary, fun or fearsome.
5. There are no specific steps to follow to build your monster. Let your imagination be your guide.
You can shape your chunk of clay into a solid, blob-style monster or divide the clay into pieces to make a body, heads, hands, feet, horns, a tail, etc. to stick together.
6. Here are some pro-tips for creating a structurally sound monster that won’t fall apart:
   ⇒ Start with a solid base for your monster. One way to do this is to roll a ball of clay and then flatten the bottom against the table to make sure it will stand up on its own.
   ⇒ Small pieces of clay can be rolled and formed into balls, worms and different shapes to make horns, arms, legs, a mouth, nose, tentacles, spikes, etc.
   ⇒ Thin clay pieces/shapes will be brittle once dry and will likely break. Make your appendages thick and sturdy.
   ⇒ To adhere pieces together: use a toothpick or fork to score both the end of the piece you’re going to adhere and also the surface you want to adhere it to. This will help create a bond between the pieces. Gently press the pieces together and smush and smooth them into place.
   ⇒ Use water sparingly to smooth the surface of the clay and repair cracks. Too much water will create a gooey mess, so just use a drop at a time.
   ⇒ Besides clay, you can use pipe cleaners to create arms, legs, horns, antennae, spikes, etc. Use a toothpick to poke small holes where you want the pipe cleaners to go. You can add the pipe cleaners at the end, once your monster is dry and painted.
   ⇒ You can create textures on your monster with a toothpick, fork or clay. You can role tiny balls of clay and flatten them to make spots, feathers or scales. Scratch hair or fur into your monster with a fork.
   ⇒ If you are not happy with the shape or look of your monster, don’t be afraid to start over. A couple drops (not too much!) of water can be used to re-wet dry clay.

PAINT AND DECORATE YOUR MONSTER:
7. Once your clay is completely dry (after 2-3 days), use your acrylic paint and brush to paint your monster however you’d like. You can make it a single color or multi-colored. You can make spots, fur or a pattern at this point.
8. Add your extras once your paint is dry: pipe cleaners and googly eyes (the googly eyes have sticky backs but will need to be glued to stay in place).
9. Name your monster!

CLEAN UP:
10. Clean your paint brush well so you can use it again on another project!
PROJECT 2: PAPER MASKS

PREPARATION:
1. Decide what kind of mask you want to make. Here are some ideas: zebra, ladybug, unicorn, carnival mask, flower, cow. One paper plate will make two masks, so you can choose four of your many ideas to bring to life!

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:
Here are the basic instructions for making a paper mask. Depending on what you decide to make, you’ll color and decorate your mask accordingly:

2. Cut the paper plate in half.
3. The round edge will be the top and the straight edge will be the bottom.
4. Hold the half-plate up to your face (round side up!) to determine where the eye holes should go. Mark the spots to cut with a marker.
5. Draw two eye-sized circles and cut them out.
   ⇒ Pro-tip: bend the paper plate where you want to cut a hole and make a small snip at the bend to get started.
6. Decorate! Use markers to color the paper plate. Use construction paper, feathers and glue to make ears, horns, antennae, hair, spikes etc.
7. Decorate your tongue depressor—color it with markers, wrap it in paper, get creative!
8. Once your plate and tongue depressor are decorated and dry, glue the tongue depressor to the back of the plate on one side to create a handle.
9. Let handle dry in place before using!

EXAMPLE: ZEBRA MASK
Here’s how to decorate your plate to create a zebra mask:
1. After cutting your paper plate in half and making eye holes, draw black stripes and a pink nose and smile and color them in.
2. On construction paper, draw two ears, color in the middle, and cut them out. Then glue the ears to the top of the zebra’s head (glue them to the back of the paper plate). Leave room between the ears for the zebra’s mane.
3. To create a mane, take a sheet of paper and trim it to about 3 inch by 3 inch square. Make 2-inch long cuts into the paper square to create strands of hair. Be sure not to cut the paper into strips—leave about an inch of solid paper at the bottom holding the strands together to make gluing easier.
4. Glue the mane to the top of the zebra’s head between the ears (glue it to the back of the paper plate).

MATERIALS (INCLUDED):
• 2 Paper plates
• Markers
• Feathers
• Construction paper
• 2 tongue depressors
• Glue
• Scissors

MATERIALS (NOT INCLUDED):
• Glitter (optional)
• Sequins (optional)
• Yarn (optional)