

Make an African Style Mask

Inspired by the designs of Grebo masks, which belong to the Kru Cultural area (South-west Ivory Coast or South Liberia, Africa). The masks represent the spiritual forces of the unseen world living in the forest. [information source: www.museum-lehavre.fr/en/objet/gebro-mask].

Design your own mask!

You will need:

- ❖ The mask templates (attached below)
- ❖ A4 Craft card
- ❖ Scissors
- ❖ Hole puncher
- ❖ All-purpose glue and glue stick
- ❖ Pencil
- ❖ Non-toxic craft paint
- ❖ Paint brush
- ❖ String



Caution: Adult supervision will be required when using scissors, hole puncher, pencil, glue and string. Small parts can be a choking hazard. Do not leave children unattended during project.

Step by step guide:





Step 1: Cut along the solid outline of the templates provided. Do not cut along the dashed lines. Draw the outline of the shapes on to craft card (or glue the templates on to the craft card). Cut around the shapes.

Step 2: The frame (template 2) will be placed on the back of the mask (template 1). Fold the side frames 'A' and 'B', glue the tabs, and stick them on the mask, adjusting them on to the vertical edges of the mask.

Step 3: Glue the tabs of frames 'C' and 'D' and stick them on the top and base of the mask. Allow to dry. See Photograph 1.

Step 4: The crown of the mask Glue along one side of the curved edge (template 3) and attach the rim (template 4), adjusting it towards the edge. When dry, glue the other curved edge of the crown. Attach it on to the remaining tabs of the rim to create a semicircle. See photograph 2.

Step 5: The eyes of the mask (template 5) You will need to create six small cylinders. Once created, open out the small tabs. There are six circles. Open out the triangular tabs in the circle and insert the small cylinder through it. See photographs above.

Step 6: The mouth (template 6) In number order, glue the lettered tabs and stick them under the corresponding letters, to create a rectangle shape. See photographs above.

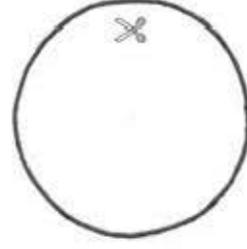
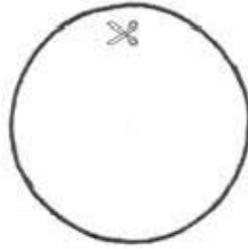
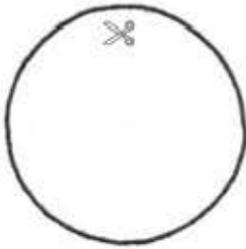
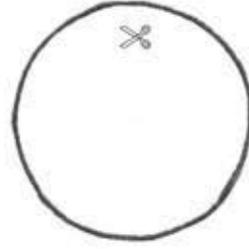
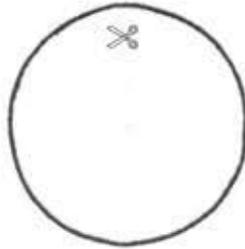
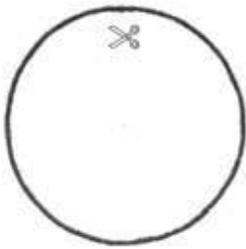
Step 7: The crown, eyes and mouth will be glued on to the front of the mask. Glue one side of the crown. Align the curved edges of the crown and the top of the mask and stick on to the space available. Glue the cylinder eyes and stick them over the eyes on the mask, making sure the holes align. Glue the rectangle mouth and place it in the area under the eyes.

Step 8: Paint and decorate your mask. When dry, string the mask via the small holes on the sides of the frame of the mask.



Top of mask.

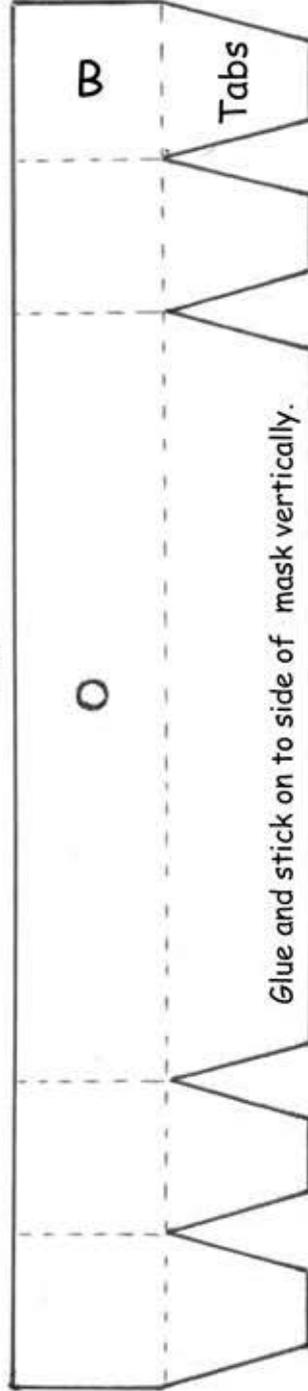
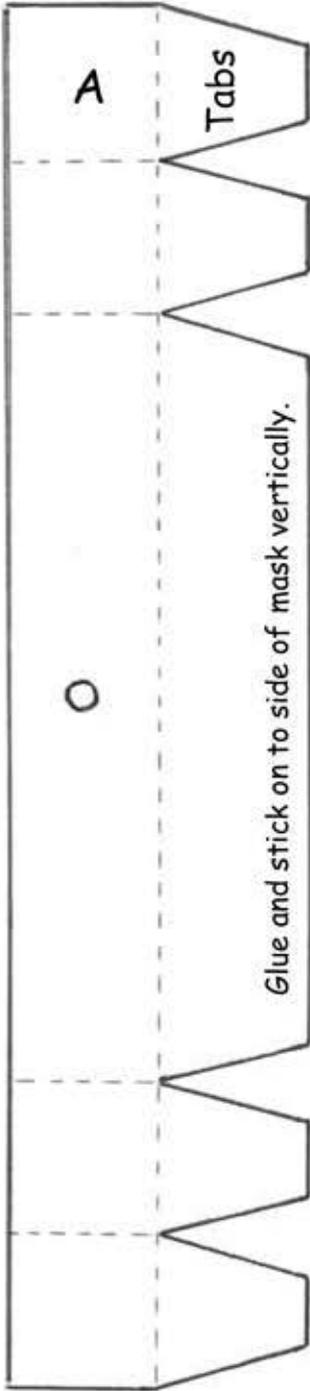
**The main mask
(template 1):**
Cut along the outline of
the shape ✂
Cut out the 6
circles in
the mask.



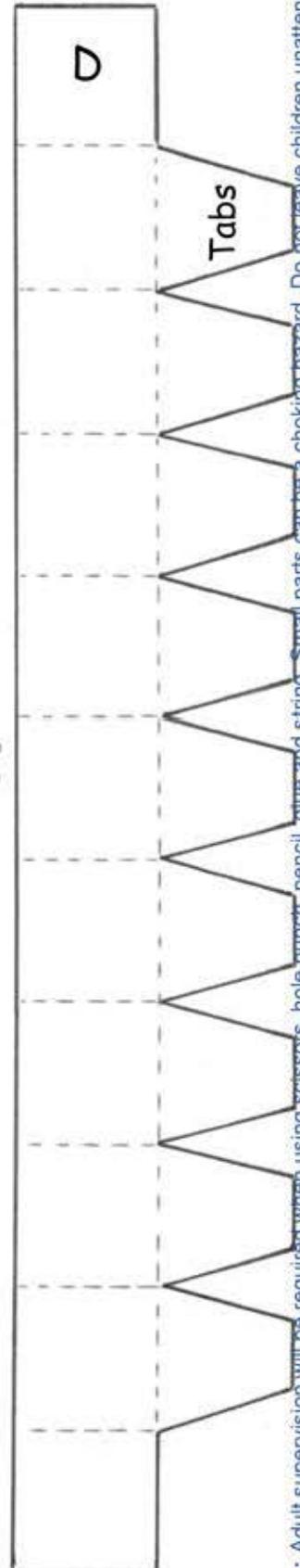
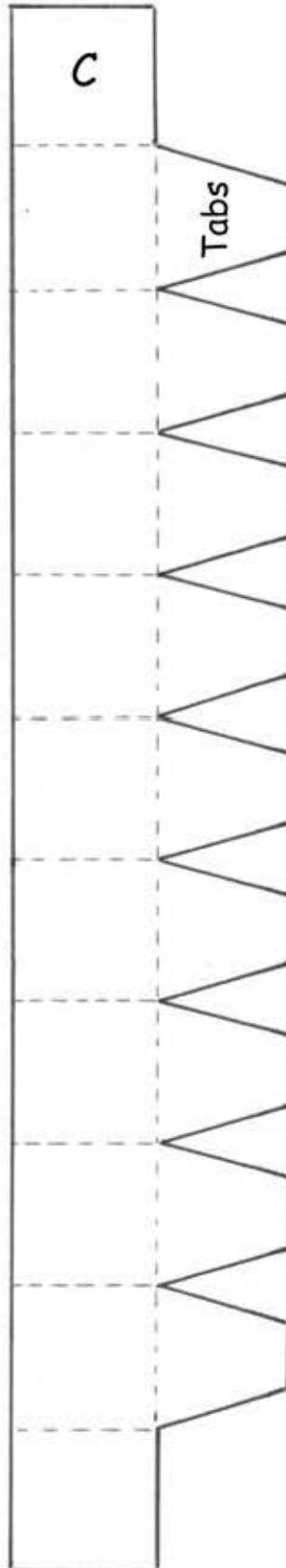
Base of mask.

The mask frame (template 2):
cut along the outline of the shapes ✂
Fold along the dashed lines.

Vertical side frames 'A' and 'B'.
Pierce the small holes with a pencil or a hole punch.
Glue and stick the small tabs on to the
side of the mask.

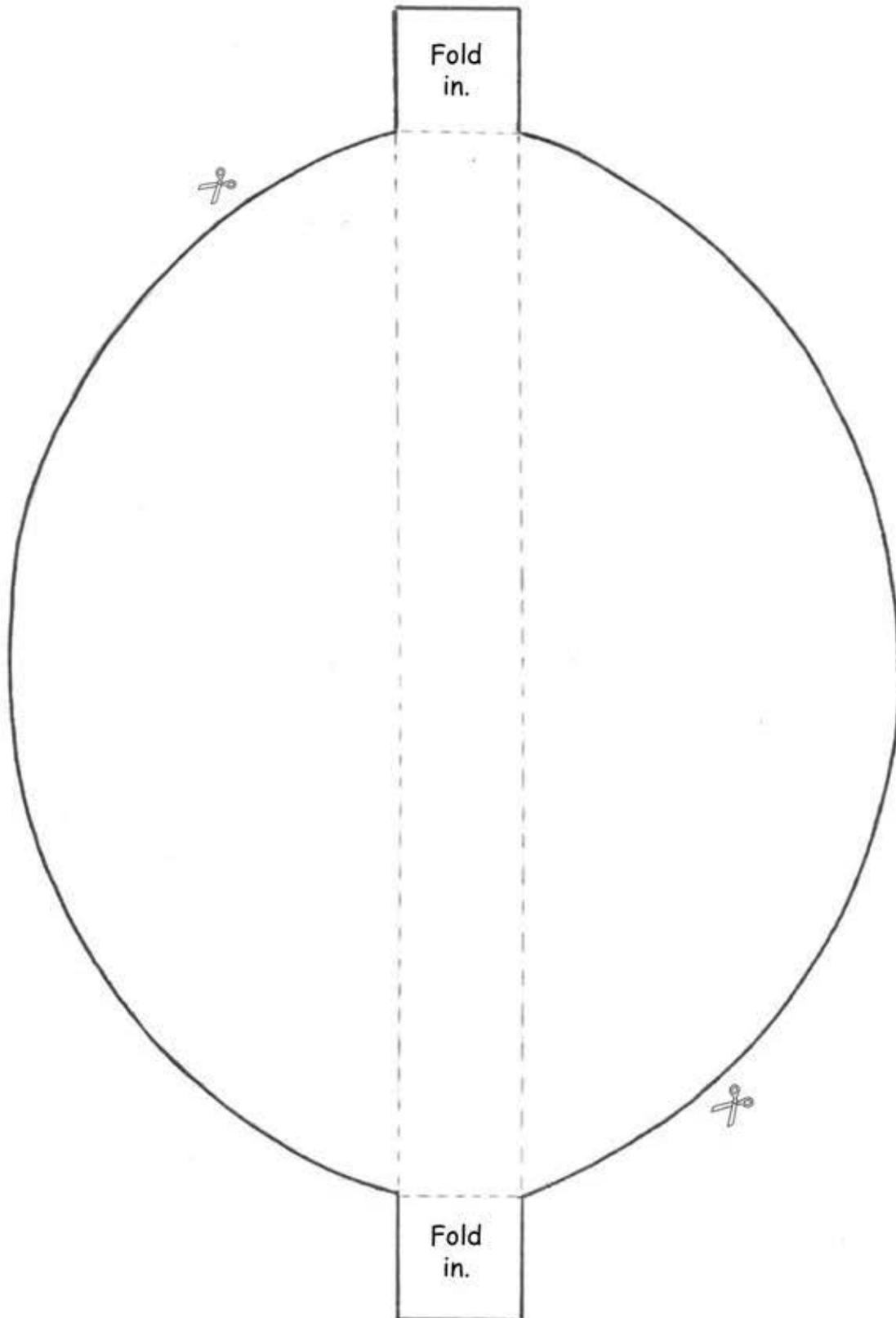


Top and base frames 'C' and 'D'.
Glue and stick the small tabs on to the mask.



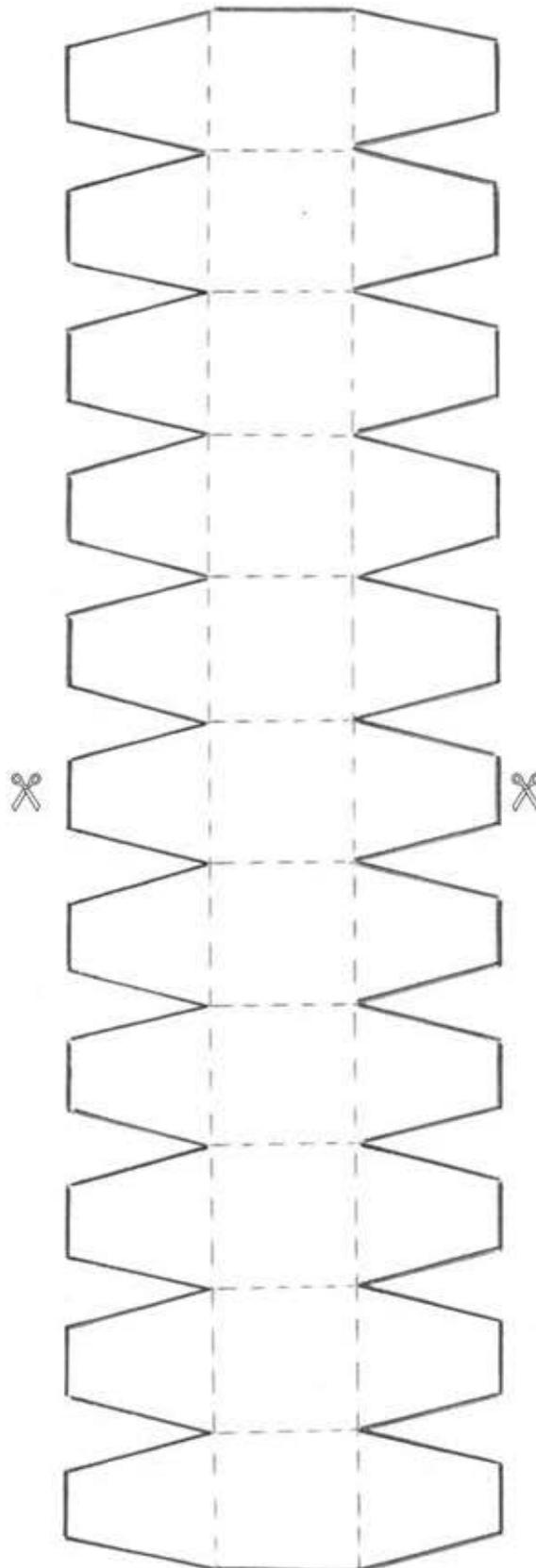
Crown (template 3): cut along the outline of the shapes ✂
Fold along the dashed lines.

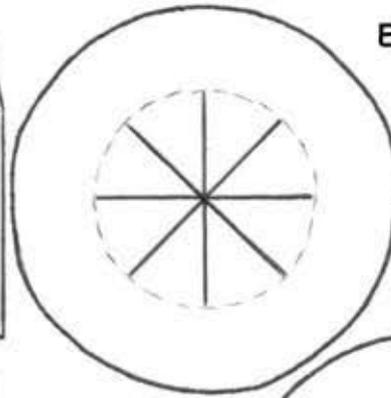
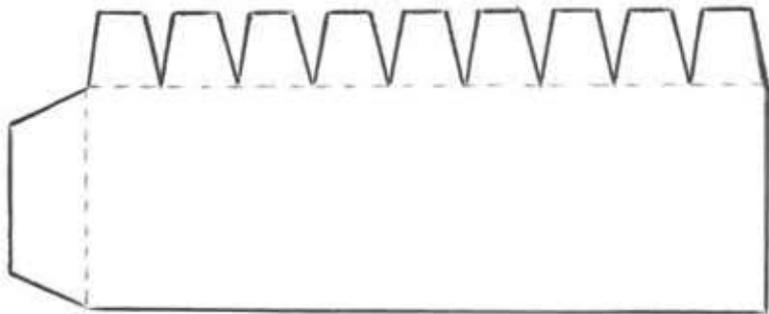
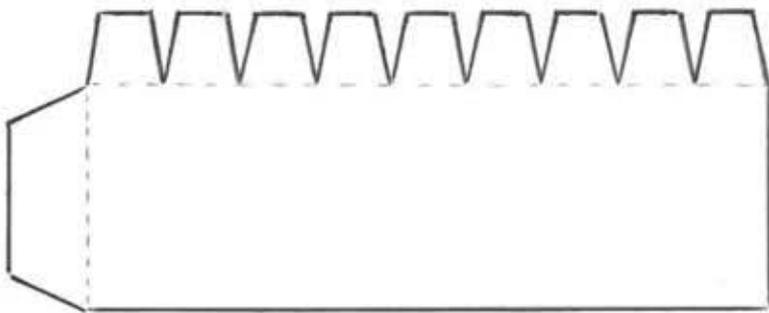
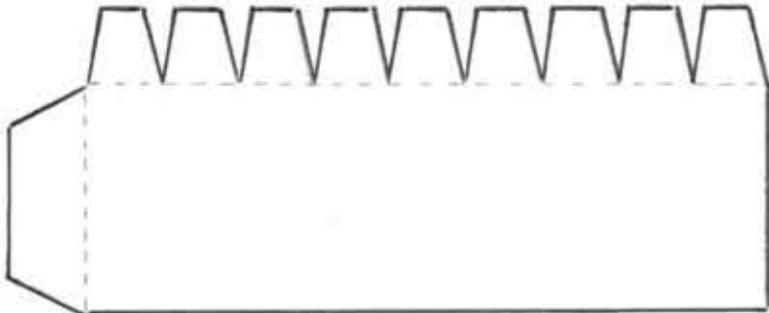
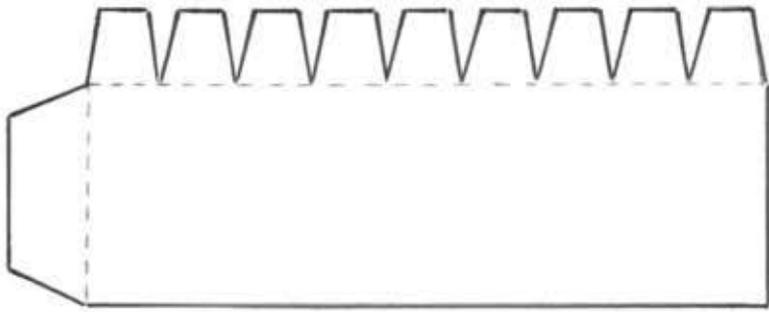
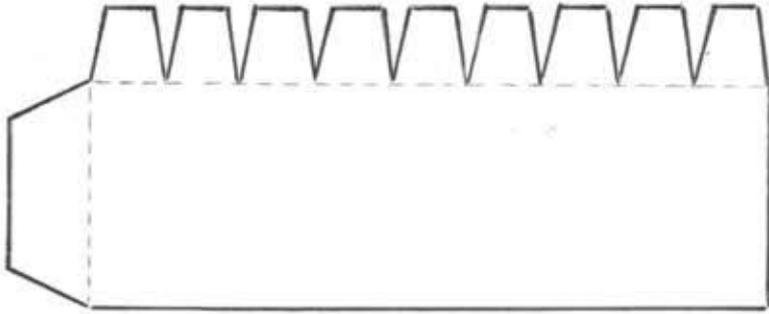
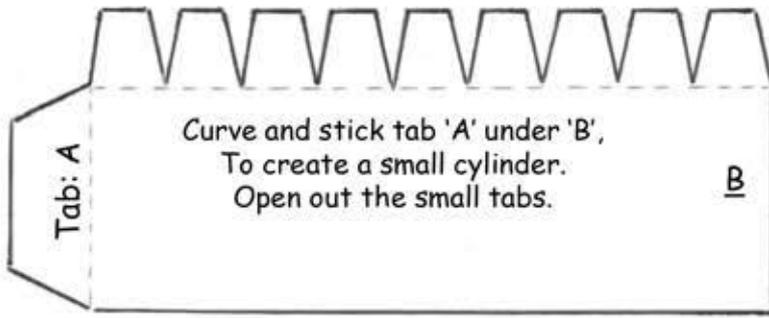
Glue along one side of the curved edge and attach the rim (template 4).
When dry, glue the other curved edge and stick on to the remaining tabs of the rim
to create a semicircle.



Crown rim (template 4): cut along the outline of the shape ✂
Fold along the dashed lines.

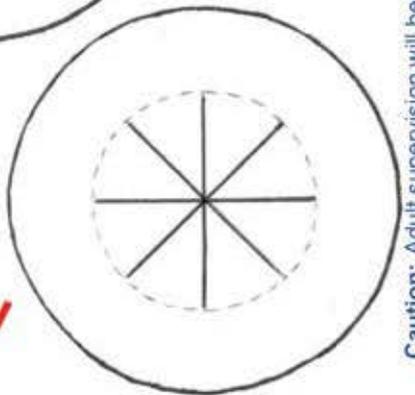
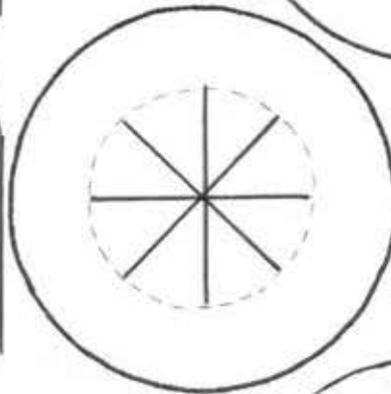
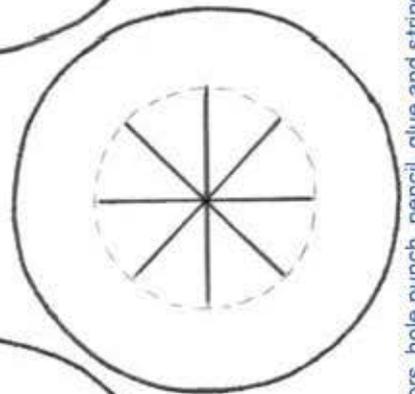
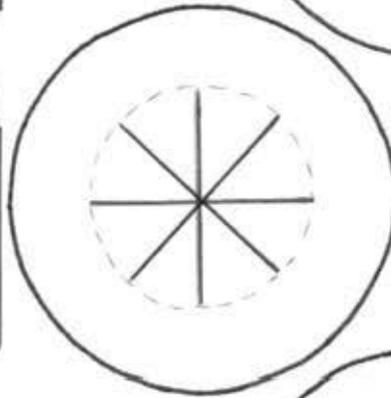
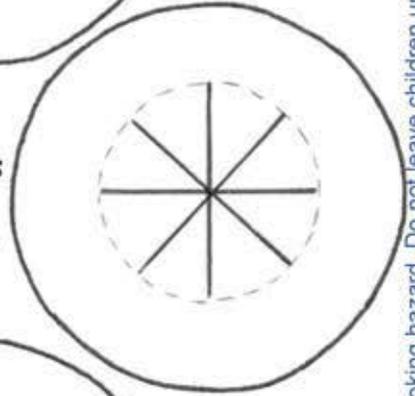
Stick one side of the tabs along the curved edge of the crown (template 3).
When dry, stick the remaining tabs onto the other curved edge of the crown
to create a semicircle shape.





Eyes (template 5):
cut along the
outline of
the shapes ✂
Fold along
the dashed lines.

Open out the
triangular tabs
in the circle
and insert the
small cylinder
through it.



Mouth (template 6): cut along the outline of the shapes ✂
Fold along the dashed lines.

In number order, glue the tabs and stick under the corresponding letters, to create a rectangle shape.

