

LET'S MAKE A PAPER CUT SHADOW BOX

HELLO!

My name is Linda Toigo.

I am a paper artist and today i would like to make a paper cut shadow box with you.

Are you ready?

1) PLAN YOUR PROJECT



Think of what you would like to make.

Maybe a forest? Or an aquarium? Or a city full of dinosaurs? Or maybe a new planet!

Have fun thinking of the characters that can animate your paper world...

2) LOOK FOR TOOLS AND MATERIALS



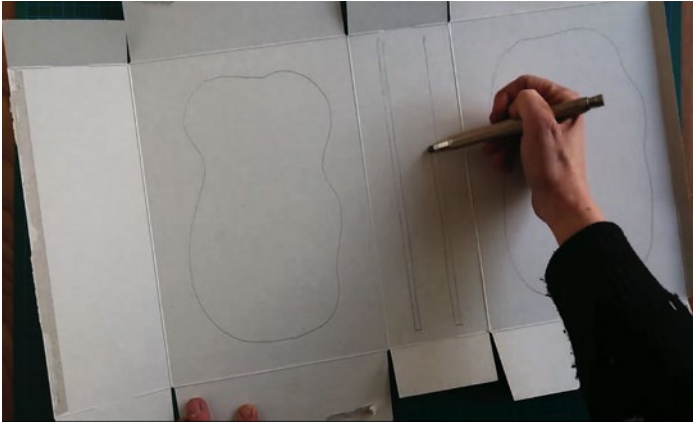
- Some sheets of white paper
- Cereal boxes
- Tape
- Scissors
- Glue
- Wire or long sticks
- Colours
- Scrap paper

3) OPEN THE BOX



Take your cereal box, and open it carefully until it is nice and flat.

4) DRAW THE WINDOWS AND SLOTS



Draw two big windows of the shape that you like and two small slots. You can use a sheet of paper or a ruler to make them straight.

5) CUT OUT THE WINDOWS AND SLOTS



Using the tip of a pen or the pointy bits of your scissors, pierce through the cardboard and then cut away the shapes.

Ask an adult for help if it is too difficult.

6) DECORATE YOUR BOX



Use your favourite colours, pencils, glitter and make it a very beautiful box.

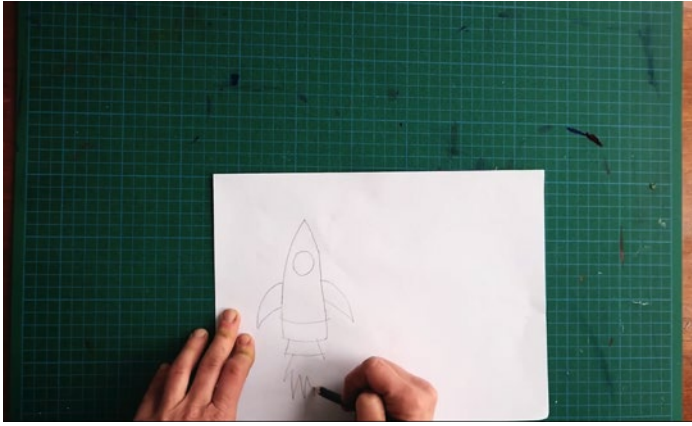
7) COLOUR THE CARD AND SCRAP PAPER



Colour the pieces of the box that you cut out, and also pieces of paper that you can find around your house: magazines, city maps, colouring books...

If the paper you have coloured is a bit too floppy, just glue it to a piece of the cereal box to make it nice and thick.

8) DRAW YOUR SHAPES



Draw your shapes on a piece of paper. They can be very simple, or also complex if you want a challenge! Cut each shape very roughly, then tape it to the coloured cardboard to keep it place.

9) CUT OUT YOUR SHAPES



Cut away the paper that is not needed anymore. The trick to cut easily is to keep the scissors still and straight, and to gently move the paper as you cut, following the lines. If you want to cut out holes, either fold the paper, snip it and cut the hole, or pierce it and cut it away. If cutting the hole is too difficult, you can cut the paper all the way to the hole, and tape it back at the end.



Some elements of your shapes can be cut out from different materials. I planned to have a nice orange colour for the fire, but then I turned the shape and it's so much fun to use the bright yellow print of the cereal box! Experiment with materials! Look for interesting materials around the house and stick them on a piece of light cardboard. When the glue is dry, you can use it for your shapes.



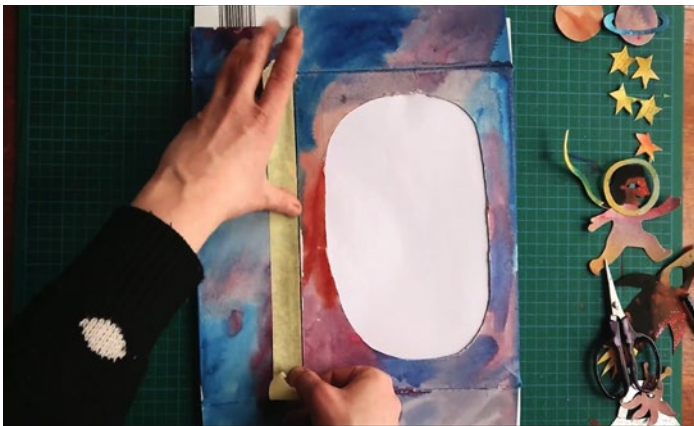
Glue all the bits together and put aside. Make all the elements that you need: some will be used for the front, some for the back, and some will be your paper puppets.

10) STICK A PIECE OF WHITE SHEET INSIDE THE BOX



Take your box, cut a piece of white paper roughly to size and stick it on one side.

11) CLOSE YOUR BOX WITH TAPE OR GLUE



Close the box using glue or tape.
Some cereal boxes come with a flap: you can use that to close one side.

12) STICK YOUR ELEMENTS ON THE BOX



Stick your elements on the sides of the box.
It does not need to be very busy: make sure you leave some white space free.

13) TAPE THE WIRE TO THE PUPPETS



Take your paper puppets and tape a piece of wire or a long stick to their back.

14) IT'S SHOW TIME!



Well done!

You have finished your box, it is now show time!
Slide your puppets through the slots and make them move in the beautiful space that you just created.

15) TURN OFF THE LIGHT



And if you want to make something really magical, turn the light off and place a lamp or a torch behind the box: you can now create shadow theatre shows for all your family!

If you place the box by your window, also your neighbours will enjoy it!

16) SHARE!



I can't wait to see your work!

Share your box with the beautiful community of art, book and paper lovers.

If you have questions, I will be happy to help!

Find me on my instagram account [@lindatoigo](https://www.instagram.com/lindatoigo) or on www.lindatoigo.com