

Create Cardboard Wings

Explore wing shapes and create your own wearable wings!

Wings come in many different sizes, shapes, and materials. Each kind of wing helps an animal or vehicle fly in a particular way, such as soaring, hovering, or diving.

Materials Needed:

Cardboard pieces, scissors, tape, ribbon, large binder or kitchen clip, decorating materials (tissue paper, paint, markers, yarn, etc.)

Instructions:

Step 1: Look at the pictures of winged animals and vehicles on the next page. What kinds of shapes do you see? Choose what kind of wings to make!

Step 2: Measure the length from your shoulder to fingertips. Trace a wing shape on a piece of cardboard to match the length, and cut out the shape.

Hint: If the piece of cardboard is not long enough, tape two pieces together.

Step 3: Using the first wing as a template, trace the shape on the second piece of cardboard to create a second matching wing. Place the template face-down so the wings are mirror images of each other.

Step 4: Decorate your wings. Use any color of markers, paint, or tissue paper.

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Step 5 Attach the shoulder sides of the wings to each other using heavy tape. Attach a piece of ribbon in a loop to each wing tip. You can also attach ribbons to the shoulders for additional support, if needed.

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Explore Wings

From bats to dragonflies, animals have adapted to fly with many different types of wings. Can you see the different shapes?

Trumpeter Swans

Rufous Hummingbird

Dragonfly



Tiger Swallowtail Butterfly

Flying Fish

Ladybug

Pteranodon

Little Brown Bat

Humans don't have wings, but we build aircraft inspired by nature!

Hang Glider

Float Plane

Space Shuttle