

SECOND SATURDAYS FROM HOME: AT THE DRIVE-IN – CARDBOARD CARS

Make your own cardboard art car inspired by the auto-themed work of art *Road Angel* by Terry Allen. Then take your new ride and pull into your very own home drive-in theatre and watch your favorite movie or TV show in style!



Materials:

- Cardboard box big enough to sit in
- Construction paper
- Paper towel roll
- Egg carton
- Aluminum foil
- Paper plates
- School glue, hot glue and hot glue gun or tape
- Drawing tools

HOW-TO:

1. Begin by gathering all your supplies! Find a box large enough to comfortably sit in. The material list above is just a list of recommendations. You can use any materials you like to build your car! What can you find around the house to include in your car design?
2. Take a minute to think about what you want your car to look like. Maybe it is inspired by a car you have seen on the road. Perhaps it's a design the world has never seen before! What are the parts you want to include in your design –will it have wheels, a windshield, side mirrors, or a bumper?
3. Let's begin to assemble our car! With help from an adult, cut into your cardboard box to begin to create the body of your car. Cut a rectangle out of one of the flaps to create the **windshield**, or front window. Do you also want to create a back window and side windows? Cut those out too! **PRO TIP:** When cutting into cardboard, pay attention to the **corrugated lines** in the cardboard. Typical cardboard is corrugated, meaning it is made up of 3 layers of paper and the middle layer is wavy. This creates lines in the cardboard. Cutting along the lines will be easier than cutting across them.
4. To create windows that stand up straight on their own, build supports on the two lower corners. Cut two triangles from extra pieces of cardboard and glue or tape them to the corners of your window against your car body.
5. Add paper, markers or paint to change the color of your car, or use aluminum foil if you want the surface to be shiny like metal.

6. There are many ways to create wheels for your car. You can use markers or paint to draw them on. One way to create 3-dimensional wheels begins by attaching black construction paper or coloring a paper plate. Tear or cut a square from your egg carton (4 egg compartments) and wrap it in aluminum foil. Attach to the center of your paper plate wheel and attach the wheel to the body of your car!
7. To create a front grill for your car, expose the wavy layer of your cardboard by peeling back one layer of smooth cardboard. Once the wavy layer is exposed, wrap it in aluminum foil and gently massage the foil into each groove for a textured look! **PRO TIP:** When you expose this wavy center layer, your cardboard becomes much easier to bend and create round forms like a cylinder.
8. There are many ways to create front headlights and tail lights for your car. One way to create 3-dimensional headlights uses a **toilet paper tube, aluminum foil and an egg carton**. Tear or cut one compartment of the egg carton, wrap it in foil and glue or tape it to the end of the tube. Using scissors, cut 8 lines about an inch long into the opposite end of the tube. Flare out those tabs and use them to securely attach your tube to the body of your car.
9. What other details do you want to include in your car design? Maybe a bumper with some cool bumper stickers? What about side mirrors or a rearview mirror? What about the interior of the car? Check out our Material Exploration video about Cardboard [here](https://vimeo.com/439074268) (<https://vimeo.com/439074268>) to get some tips and tricks for building with cardboard!
10. Once your car is finished, you are ready to hit the road! Take your car for a spin around the house or your neighborhood. When you are finally ready to take a break, choose a favorite movie, show or radio channel and park your car to enjoy!
11. **SHARE YOUR CREATIONS!** Show us all the amazing art you are creating by tagging [@contemporaryatx](#) [#SecondSaturdaysAtHome](#)
12. Learn more about what inspired our art making today – Terry Allen’s sculpture *Road Angel*!!

DID YOU KNOW:

1. Raised in Lubbock, Texas, the artist and musician **Terry Allen** works in a variety of media including sculpture, painting, drawing, video, installation, theater, recordings, and performance.
2. *Road Angel* is no ordinary sculpture – it has a sound track! When you visit this sculpture at Laguna Gloria, you can listen to a custom playlist created by Allen that includes his favorite songs and memories told by his friends and family.
3. Although this sculpture looks like an actual car, it is actually a copy of a car. Allen wanted to make an exact copy of this 1953 Chevrolet Coupe so he made a mold of an original and then created a copy of it using the material **bronze**. Although the tires look like rubber and the handles look like you can pull the door open, it is just a hollow copy of the original.

