

SECOND SATURDAYS FROM HOME:

MYTHICAL SEA CREATURES: 2D TO 3D SCULPTURE



Take a deep dive into the lagoon this month and invent your own mythical sea creature inspired by Wangechi Mutu's *Water Woman*! Transform colorful 2D materials such as paper, fabric and film into 3D forms to build an imaginative mythical sea creature!

Materials:

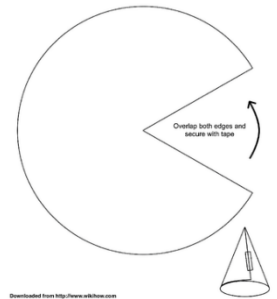
- Dowel, skewer or stick
- Wire, rubber bands or tape
- Colorful fabrics and papers
- Embellishments like stickers, glitter and googly eyes
- Scissors

HOW-TO:

There is no right or wrong way to create your sea creature. Below you will find some tips and tricks to inspire you, the artist!

1. Collect your materials.
PRO TIP: If you only have white paper at home, you can add color and pattern to your materials using a pencil, crayons, markers or any other materials you may have.
2. To build your mythical sea creature, stack your materials onto your wooden dowel, stick or skewer, one at a time. For each piece of paper or fabric you add, you will need to poke or cut a small hole to stack onto the skewer. To secure the paper or fabric to a specific spot on the stick, use the rubber band, tape, or wire to wrap it around the material and stick to hold it in place.
PRO TIP: One way to build your creature is from the bottom up! Beginning by deciding what your creature's lower body will look like. To create something like tentacles, cut a large circle from paper or fabric and cut the tentacles all the way around the circle. Poke a hole in the center and slide it onto the stick. Remember that you are creating a 3D sculpture, so make sure your creature has a front, back and sides!

3. One way to create volume in your creature's layers is to create texture.
 - a. To create a fringed layer, cut lines into the edge of your paper one next to another all the way around the perimeter. The closer the cuts the spikier the texture!
 - b. Another way to create texture is to tear your paper! The torn edge of paper makes for an easy and interesting texture. Tearing strips of paper and sliding them onto your stick can also give the impression of arms or tentacles.
 - c. Poking holes in your sheet of paper using a pencil point or toothpick can create a spotted, bumpy texture in your paper.
4. There are many ways to transform a 2D sheet of paper into a 3D form.
 - a. The easiest way is to crumple your paper up! Crumpling your paper into a sphere and sliding it onto your stick is the quickest way to create a 3D form for your creature.
 - b. Another way to create a 3D form is by curving or folding your paper to create new shapes. For example, to make a cone, cut your paper into a circle and cut a triangle out of the circle (like a pizza slice). Overlap the two edges of the cut to pop it up like a cone. Use a piece of tape to secure the paper into place.
 - c. Another simple form you could try is a cylinder. To create a cylinder, cut or tear a strip of paper then loop the paper into a ring and tape into place. The wider the strip, the taller the cylinder.
5. As you stack one material on top of the other, remember to leave a little bit of room at the top of your stick to secure the head of your creature.
6. Once the body of your mythical creature has been finished, use any extra materials and embellishments you may have to decorate! Use a pencil or marker to add a face and any other details that you may want!
7. Check out our website for a video demonstration of this project at TheContemporaryAustin.org! Find more information about the artwork that inspired this project, *Water Woman* by Wangechi Mutu, below.
8. **SHARE YOUR CREATIONS!** Show us all the amazing art you are creating by tagging [@contemporaryatx](https://twitter.com/contemporaryatx) [#SecondSaturdaysAtHome](https://twitter.com/SecondSaturdaysAtHome)



DID YOU KNOW:



1. Wangechi Mutu's sculpture *Water Woman* is inspired by the nguva, an east African legend of a half woman, half sea creature. This may sound familiar to you – this creature is similar to a mermaid!
2. Although this sculpture is made from bronze, it began as a lump of clay. Mutu first sculpted the statue from clay. Then a mold was created so an exact copy could be made from bronze.
3. Mutu walked all 14 acres of Laguna Gloria before deciding on the perfect location for *Water Woman*. This sculpture can be found at the bottom of the amphitheater, sitting on a grassy mound surrounded by plants, looking out on the lagoon.