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## Instructions for: **Rock Mache**

To produce lightweight rocks we recommend building your rock over a piece of carving foam or on a larger rocks and bigger bases as a skeleton of plywood and 1/8" hardward cloth to lessen weight.

Mix mache with enough water to form a firm plaster consistency. If the mixture is too soft, it will fail to hold a texture and will sag. Using a putty knife, cover the entire formation with approximately 1/2" of firm mache mixture.

Texturing can be achieved with a variety of tools however our favorite is a natural sea sponge (not synthetic). Moisten slightly and press texture of sponge in to mache. Look at real rocks to try to duplicate the texture of nature itself.

Coloring is best accomplished with dry tempra paint mixed with water to a mud puddle consistency. Not too much pigment in water. remember you can always give it 2 to 3 coats to darken, but if too dark it is difficult to lighten. Colors I like are black, red, and yellow. Here again, look at the real rocks when trying to duplicate.

To speed up set-up time of mache, add small amounts of salt. Or add small amounts of borax to delay set-up time of mache.