



A papier mâché flower

You need:

A large piece of cardboard
 Recyclable materials to make a form
 Masking tape
 Newspaper
 Wallpaper paste (see recipe below to make your own paste)
 Acrylic paints

Recipe for homemade wallpaper paste:

Sprinkle 0.5 dl of granulated sugar into 2 dl of water and bring the water to the boil so that all the sugar crystals are fully dissolved. Meanwhile thoroughly mix 1½ tablespoons of potato flour into 2 dl of water in a bowl. Then slowly add this to the sugar solution, stirring constantly. Re-heat the mixture on the stove, stirring constantly until the paste has the right consistency. Pour into a jar and leave to cool.

Here's how to make the flower:

Start by using the piece of card to make a form for the flower. Use newspaper, plastic bags and other recyclable materials and fix these to the card with masking tape. Then lay a thin layer of papier mâché in the form. Make sure the form resembles flower petals as closely as possible, shaping these like a bowl to give the flower a 3-dimensional appearance. When the form is complete, cover it entirely with masking tape. The tape's

smooth surface makes it easier to remove the papier mâché from the form once it has dried. Make sure the entire form is covered.

Now you can start to create the flower by pasting strips of newspaper to the form with the wallpaper paste. The more layers of newspaper, the thicker the flower will be. Make sure you cover all the newspaper with wallpaper paste so that each layer is properly fixed in place.

When you are satisfied with your flower, leave it to dry. The flower must be totally dry before it can be successfully removed from the form. The length of time required for drying will depend on how thick your layer of papier mâché is. However, you should count on leaving the flower to dry for at least 24 hours at room temperature. If you wish to dry it more quickly, you can place the form in the oven at 50° C.

When the papier mâché is totally dry, release it carefully from the form. If it is difficult to remove the flower from the form, carefully peel away the form instead, until the flower is revealed. Paint the flower white, or let the children paint it in their own choice of colours, and then fix it to the wall with adhesive putty or a nail. blomman vit eller låt barnen gå loss med valfri färg och fäst sedan på väggen med kludd eller en spik.

