

CARDBOARD

Materials List:

Cardboard boxes, cardboard rolls: Save cereal and packaging boxes. Think about collecting different kinds of cardboard such as corrugated cardboard – this is more flexible and less stiff than your typical cardboard. Cardboard can also be found as paper towel and toilet paper rolls.

Scissors: Try to find a pair of scissors that easily cuts through cardboard. A pair of fabric scissors is best.

Masking Tape: Use this tape to join cardboard pieces. With masking tape, it's okay to make mistakes – this tape can easily detach from cardboard.

Boxcutters, hot glue: These materials are optional. Boxcutters can be used to cut out shapes that are too difficult to reach with scissors. Hot glue bonds well, but it does not detach from cardboard as easily as masking tape.

Tips for working with cardboard:

- Be on the lookout for recycled cardboard in your home
- For younger children, make sure to have an adult around when using a boxcutter and hot glue if you decide to use them.

Explorations:

- 1.) Experiment with the material – cut a small piece of cardboard and explore ways you can make it stand or change its shape.
- 2.) Cut another piece of cardboard and take a piece of masking tape. What can you do with these materials? Think of different ways to put them together.
- 3.) Take 5 pieces of cardboard. Combine them to make a sculpture. Choose the most interesting arrangement and attach the pieces.
- 4.) Think of different ways to attach the pieces together. You can use masking tape or hot glue, but you can also join them like puzzle pieces without adhesives like Noguchi.
- 5.) How large or how small will your sculpture be? Consider the scale of your art.
- 6.) When finished with the sculpture, think of installing it in a special space. Where do you think the sculpture should be installed? On the floor? On the stool? Leaning on white walls or outside on the grass?
- 7.) For examples of cardboard sculptures, google “cardboard abstract art.” Find possible ideas.

“I made drawings and then models – in this case, paper models. You have to consider the weight of the material, the forces that conspire to hold up the figure – engineering problems, essentially.”

– Isamu Noguchi