

How to make... a flying bird puppet

Suitable for ages 5 - 11

You will need:

- Access to a printer
- Plain paper
- Colouring pencils or felt tip pens
- Clothes peg
- Scissors
- Glue



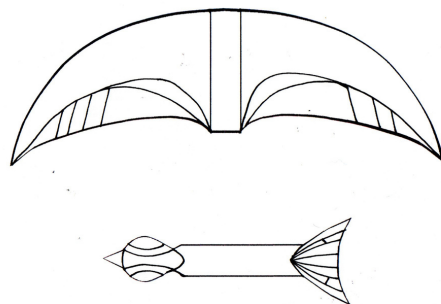
If you enjoyed Phil Yarrow's reading of *Thor's Hammer*, why not create a flying bird puppet, to recreate the moment when Loki turns into a bird and flies to the land of giants.

This little bird puppet is beautiful and actually very simple to make. In a few steps you can turn some paper and a clothes peg into a magnificent creature with moving wings. This activity sheet includes a template.

Instructions

Step 1:

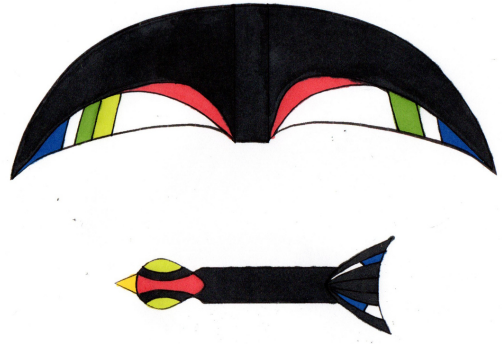
Print out our template and draw in any extra details you would like to add to your bird.



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Step 2:

Colour in your bird.



Step 3:

Cut out all your pieces. Once you've cut them out, colour the other side of your wings in as well.



Step 4:

Fold up the tail along the dotted line.



Step 5:

Glue the body of your bird onto the top of a clothes peg. Leave the tail free so that it sticks up away from the peg and let the head come over the end.



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Step 6:

Fold the wings up along the dotted lines.



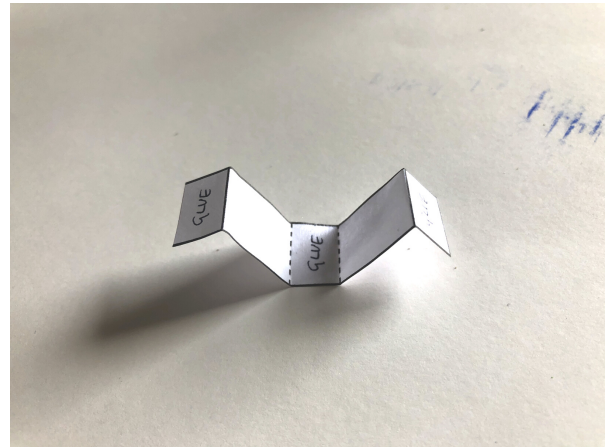
Step 7:

Glue the wings on top of the body.



Step 8:

Fold the strip along all the dotted lines. The two central folds need to fold up, the outer folds fold down to create an 'M' shape, like in the picture.



Step 9:

Add a little glue to the central tab labelled 'glue' and stick it to the underside of your peg, just a little bit away from the end.



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Step 10:

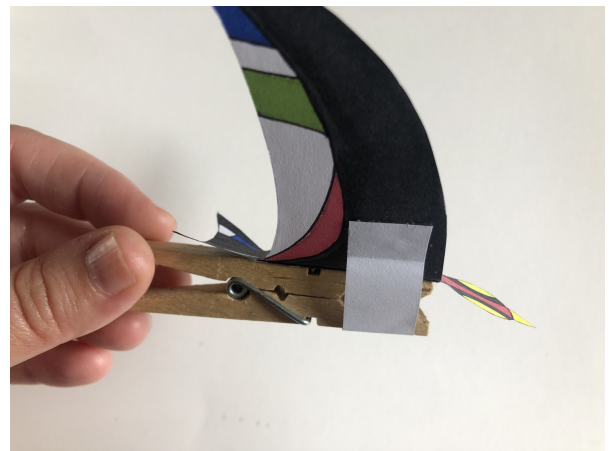
Turn the peg over to lie on its side. Fold the wing up to its highest point. Add a little glue to the glue tab, lie the paper strip across the side of the peg and stick the tab down to where it meets the wing.

Repeat on the other side.



Step 11:

Bend the head down a little at the edge of the peg.



Great work!

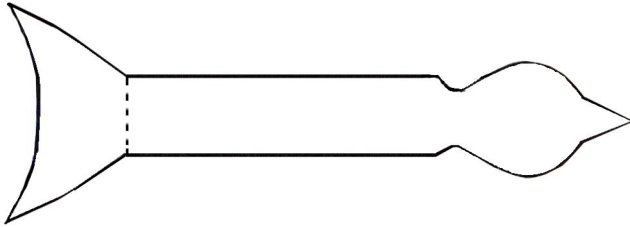
To make your bird puppet fly, simply hold the peg between your thumb and forefinger and squeeze the peg open and closed.

One Step Further:

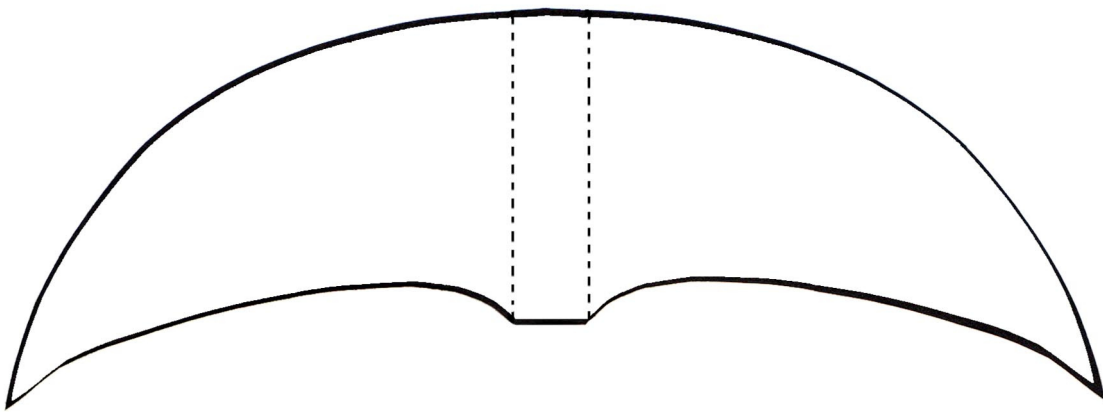
Try adapting the template to make different animals or start one of your own from scratch. Perhaps you could try a butterfly or bat.

Template:

Body



Wings



Mechanism Strip

