



# Reinventions Project # 3 with Anna Spearman

## Create your own cut-out characters

---

Presented by:



Kindly funded by:



Kids' Own is proud to be supported by:



## Introduction :

We, at Kids' Own Publishing Partnership, would like to show you what we did in our first "Reinventions Project" workshop (online in May 2020) and have made this document, to give you some of the tools, techniques and encouragement, to try to make your own!

Each week, for 4 weeks, we will have a new pack full of activities and ideas that we hope will inspire you to make many new things from old stuff. This week's 'Cut out characters' pack was put together by visual artist Anna Spearman.

Most importantly, we want you to make your own reinventions! These can be inspired by our guides or can be your own brand new ideas. We are creating a Kids' Own Library of Ideas which will be on our website, and we want ideas from children about how we can make new things from old stuff. Please see the last page in this guide for details on how to share and get involved!

When everything is open again, we would like to organise a day where you can bring your creations and share your ideas and techniques so hang on to them until then!

## what you will need:

- cardboard - recycled cereal boxes, milk cartons or other packaging
- paper - a variety of recycled paper from magazines, newspapers and other packaging
- scissors, pencil, felt pens, crayons or colouring pencils
- a variety of hard, textured objects to take rubbings from eg. spaghetti, coins, wire rack



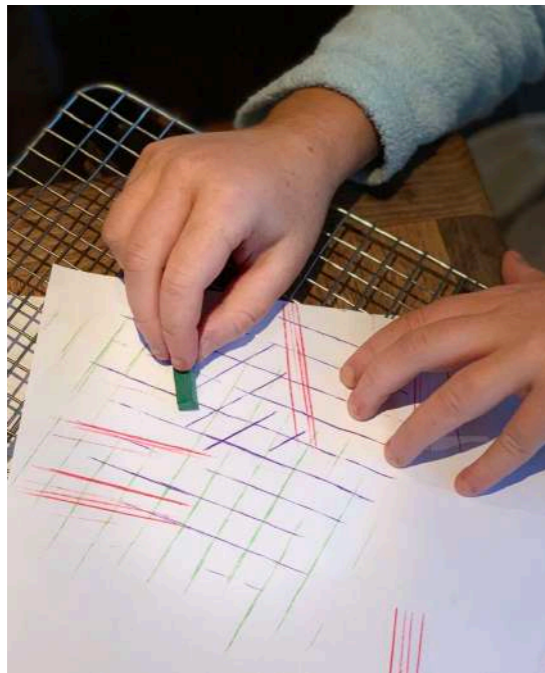
## to make your cut-out character or object:

- draw an outline of your character or object on cardboard
- cut it out
- cut a small slit in each foot or in the bottom of your object
- cut out small rectangles of cardboard with matching slits (see below)
- fit these rectangles of card into the slits in your character's feet at right angles to make it stand up (you might need a little help with this)



## to make your own printed paper/fabric:

- place a sheet of white or pale coloured paper on top of some of your textured objects eg. spaghetti sticks, wire rack, coins
- using a crayon or coloured pencil rub hard over the bit of paper with the textured object underneath to make a rubbing (use the side of the crayon or pencil)
- move the paper around to fill the page with patterns, you can mix and match different shaped patterns and colours on the one page



## to make outfits for your character:

- take your own printed paper or use other recycled patterned paper (eg. newspaper, magazines, or paper wrapping)
- think about what clothes or costumes your character might like to wear, you might make a few different outfits for different occasions
- using your character as a guide, draw each item of clothing on to your paper - draw a small tab or rectangle on either side of each item (see below)
- fold the tabs around the edge of your cut-out character to dress it



## to make backgrounds or settings for your characters:

- think about where your character might be (inside in a house or shop, outside on a farm, in a city or in a jungle)
- draw or cut out pictures from newspapers or magazines of things that you might find there (eg. buildings, furniture, plants, animals etc)
- stick your object or background onto your card and cut out
- make slits in the bottom and add rectangular feet to stand up like you did with your characters or glue on separate cardboard tabs (see below)



I hope you enjoy making your cut out characters.  
Once you have made them you can use them in different  
ways to tell lots of different stories.

Here are some links to other artists who use cut out  
characters in different ways:

- <http://www.maeveclancy.com/00-Pages/PopUpFilm/Headline.html>
  - <http://harrywalshforeman.com/index.php/portfolio/rha-futures-series-3/>
  - <https://www.hastingscontemporary.org/exhibition/anne-ryan-earthly-delights/>
-



We would love to see your  
**reinventions** that you have made with  
card and possibly other recycled materials.  
You can share them on Social Media using  
**#kidsownlibraryofideas**  
and **#kidsownreinventions**  
or send them to us at:

**info@kidsown.ie**

We will post them in the Kids' Own  
Library of Ideas on our website  
(Make sure you include your name and  
other details you would like to share and  
we will include them.)

---