AGO Makes: Summer Edition



CARDBOARD CREATIVITY

How many ways can you reinvent a cardboard box? We bet there are a million (and one!) ways to express your cardboard creativity and here are 20 of our favourites:

1. Make a Guitar

Use a cardboard box and rubber bands to make a musical instrument you can actually play. What other cardboard instruments can you create?











2. Make a Robot

Who wants a robot friend? We do!

3. Make a Finger Puppet Theatre

A box makes a perfect stage. Dress your fingers up, make up your own stories too and perform in your own finger puppet theatre.

4. Make Your Own Arcade Game

Pinball, the claw, and more - what games can you create?

5. Make a Cozy Reading Nook

Poke holes all along one side of your box. Using twinkle lights, stick the bulbs through the holes you made. Now you can start making your nook! Maybe use other boxes, pillows, a chair or the sofa to create your cozy spot. Plug in the lights and cuddle up with a blanket. Now just grab your favourite book and enjoy the starry night in your own living room.



















6. Make a Frame For Your Favourite Work of Art

Measure the artwork and cut out a cardboard frame that fits around it. Decorate your custom frame and attach it to your masterpiece.

7. Make a House

And all the rooms, and furniture, and people inside!

8. Make a Marble Run

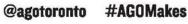
Cut the sides of your box so you end up with a cardboard tray. Add strips of cardboard to the inside to make paths (you can add paper plates, paper straws or paper towel rolls too), paint it if you like, toss in a marble and start to play!













9. Make a Cardboard City

Can you make a cardboard city and everything you'd find in it? Buildings, streets, cars, the options are endless! Check out our Cardboard City from 2017 that took over the AGO's Dr. Anne Tanenbaum Gallery School. Created by YOU and artist Sean Martindale - let's see what you can build at home!!



10. Make a Costume

Can you turn yourself into a bird? A monster? A butterfly? A superhero?

11. Make a Galactic Universe

Make planets, stars, rocket ships, and even aliens! What exists in your outer space universe?











12. Make Flowers and Plants

Create your own fantastical garden! Can you make a flower that's bigger than you?

13. Make Faces!

Cut your box into different shapes. You can paint or colour them in. Think about placement. The nose doesn't have to be in the middle of the face, maybe it's off to one side, maybe there are 2 noses! A great place to look for inspiration are portraits by Pablo Picasso. He painted many portraits in this "mixed-up" style.

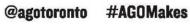
















14. Make a Pet

Do you have any animals living at home with you? Maybe you don't have a pet, but have always wanted one! Find an animal that inspires you and see if you can recreate it in cardboard!

15. Make a Painting

Cut into flat sheets and use the cardboard instead of canvas or paper to create your own paintings. Make 3 paintings to hang together - that's called a triptych. Or cut into unusual shapes and make a circle or oval or octagonal painting!

16. Make a Stove

...and food and pots and pans too! Create a menu and make cardboard meals for your family and friends!

17. Make a Pair of Shoes

Can you wear them? Try them out, have fun, (and be careful!)

18. Advanced Techniques: Twizzling

Cut long and thin strips of cardboard. Wrap these around a pen, then slide the pen out. You'll end up with cardboard strips that have a fun "twizzle" effect. This creates the effect of cardboard hair, or feathers.

19. Advanced Techniques: Scoring

If you're using corrugated cardboard, try carefully cutting halfway through the sheet. This allows you to bend the cardboard at right angles, for advanced building!











20. Make Your Own Tangram Puzzle!

The tangram is a puzzle game invented in China where a square is transformed into seven shapes, called tans. The tans can be arranged to make pictures. With the help of an adult, divide and cut the large square in the following way. Note diagonals and the middles of shapes. It's not as hard as it looks! Puzzle together different animals, structures, and objects!

