

Humpty Dumpty Oops!

MATERIALS

FOR STUDENT:

(one per student unless otherwise noted)

- FloraCraft® Make It: Fun® Foam Egg, 1 7/8" x 2 1/2"
- Chenille stems, 12" length, one of each: Green and blue
- Two 12mm diameter wiggle eyes
- Toothpick
- Washable black fine line felt tip marker
- Paper plate

For Wall

- FloraCraft® Make It: Fun® Project Bricks, tan
Note: Box contains 300 pre-painted bricks so each student can make an individual wall (using 18 bricks each) or have small groups make a longer wall or create a class wall.
- 13 toothpicks to make the individual wall, more for other options
- Rubber bands (to hold toothpicks)
- Plastic cups or additional plates (to hold bricks)



FOR TEACHER:

- FloraCraft® Design It:® Wire Cutter
- 8 1/2" x 11" sheet of good quality sticker labels (1" wide)
- 1" diameter circle punch
- Glue gun (for teacher only) or thick white tacky glue
- Serrated knife
- Ruler

LANGUAGE ARTS

GRADE LEVEL

KINDERGARTEN – FIRST

COMPLETION TIME

- 20 minutes (for Humpty)
- 20 minutes (for an individual wall)



OBJECTIVES

Students learn:

- A popular nursery rhyme
- To tell and retell stories / story sequencing
- Dramatic play
- Listening and following step by step instructions

STANDARDS

- Recognizing key ideas and details - with prompting and support
- Ask and answer questions about details in a text
- Retell familiar stories, including key details
- Identify characters, settings and major events in a story

TEACHER PREPARATION

Note: Read through all the instructions first and check out the TIPS! Have a glue gun plugged in and ready to use (ideally set on low temperature) but out of student reach. This can give you immediate adhesion when in a hurry to help students. Be sure glue has cooled before returning projects to students (takes a minute or so.) It is also recommended that you make one project first, before preparing the materials for any others, since knowing how the parts fit, might affect how you prepare. Also, suggest that you show your finished project sample only when you want to explain something, or students tend to work ahead by seeing and copying.

[1] For Humpty, use a serrated knife to cut a foam egg widthwise, leaving the narrower top about 1 1/2" tall and the wider bottom about 1" tall. Also cut a slice off the front of the top part, to create a flat area for the circle face sticker. Repeat for all students.

(Optional: On the same piece, cut a slice off the back, to create a flat area for another circle sticker upon which the student can print their name or initials.)

[2] Use the ruler and a wire cutter to measure and cut both green and blue chenille stems in half to create four 6" lengths. Repeat for all students.

[3] Use scissors to trim off the borders from the sheet of sticker labels so that the circle punch reaches into the label area. Punch out one circle per student (or two if including name stickers on the back).

Use the glue gun to glue the wiggle eyes onto the sticker, leaving room for students to draw two eyebrows at the top and a nose and mouth at the bottom.

[4] Prepare the work area by setting one egg top and

bottom, four chenille stems, one toothpick, one marker and one circle face sticker on a paper plate at each student's place.

(Include a second circle sticker if you're having students write their names on the backs.)

[5] Decide how to handle the walls: A) Students each make their own walls (18 bricks); or B) Students pair up or join in small groups to make a slightly larger wall for their Humpty figures; or C) a group of students build a larger, longer wall for all the Humpty figures.

For individual walls, count out 18 bricks on a paper plate (16 plus two on back). Use a rubber band to hold the 13 toothpicks and put them on the plate. Repeat for each student.

For other options, determine the approximate number of blocks in a container and have half a box of toothpicks ready to go.

Wait to give students any project bricks or additional toothpicks until you're ready to have them build the walls.



[1]



[2]



[3]



[4]



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INSTRUCTIONS

[1] Explain that the chenille stems need to remain straight for now.

Have students print their names in pencil on the blank sticker, remove the release paper backing and attach it to the flat surface of one side of the egg top.

[2] On the board, draw a large circle with two eyes. Demonstrate that to look surprised the eyebrows should be angled up. Also show mouth options: surprised (oval); smiling (curved up); sad (curved down); or silly (wiggly line). Have students use the markers to draw the features they prefer. Then have them remove the release paper from the back and attach it to the flat front of the egg top.



[3] Demonstrate and have students bend a thumb and mitten in the end of one green (or blue) chenille stem. Then have them bend zig-zags in the rest of the arm. Have them repeat, using another chenille stem. Ask them to insert the arm ends into the sides of the egg top.



[4] Similarly, demonstrate and have students bend an oval foot in the end of one blue (or green) chenille stem. Then have them bend zig-zags in the rest of the leg. Ask them to repeat with another chenille stem and to insert the ends into the sides of the egg bottom.

Demonstrate how to snap a toothpick in half, by tightly holding both ends and bringing hands together. Use a toothpick half to join

the top back of the egg bottom to the bottom back of the egg top.



[5] On the board draw and explain how bricks are placed end-to-end and the rows staggered as follows: Draw a row of four rectangles. Above that row, draw four more rectangles that are shifted over to stagger. Draw a third row on top of that, so that those bricks align with the first row. Last, draw a fourth row on top, so that those bricks align with the second row. Discuss so students understand.

Distribute project bricks and toothpicks. Demonstrate how to insert a toothpick half into the short end of one brick and push it against the short end of another, to connect them. Repeat with two more bricks. Instruct students to make their first row. Check and approve them and give students the go-ahead to make three more rows the same way. (Wait to connect rows.) Use glue gun if any joints are loose.

Demonstrate and have students use toothpicks in tops of bricks in three rows to join them, making the rows stagger, as shown on the board.

On the bottom back of the wall, about 1" from each end, demonstrate how to add two bricks that extend out from the wall, to keep it from tipping.



[6] Have students set Humpty Dumpty on the wall, using remaining toothpick half to hold his bottom onto the wall. They can bend his arms and legs as desired.

MODIFICATIONS

To simplify project:

- Have students make Humpty Dumpty but you make one wall for the whole class.
- Just fold the chenille stem ends into loops for the hands and feet.

To expand project:

- Add more details to Humpty, such as felt pants and shoes.
- Create a backdrop: Tape together two cardstock sheets to make an L-shape. Students can make a sky in the vertical sheet and a foreground in the horizontal sheet.

For multiple ages:

- Younger and older students can work side-by-side with older students selecting another story and creating a major character, while the younger students work on Humpty Dumpty.
- Encourage older students to use foam, chenille stems, felt, paper and other craft basics to make environments (dioramas) for their story's characters.

Note: FloraCraft® has foam dioramas with precut parts that only require simple assembly and they are ready to go!

ADDITIONAL IDEAS

- Display the Humpty figures on top of the wall, hanging from the wall, and sitting in front of it after having fallen. Their chenille stem hands and feet can be carefully inserted in between the bricks for unique poses.
- Discuss other nursery rhymes and create characters from foam (eggs and balls), chenille stems, paper, etc.
- Make a giant Humpty Dumpty using a large foam egg, jumbo (larger diameter and longer) chenille stems (found in specialty toy stores) and classroom building blocks.
- Create "all the king's horses and all the king's men" by drawing/coloring them on cardstock (heavy weight) paper, cutting them out and posing them along the class wall.



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TIPS

- If any cut edges of the foam eggs are irregular, just rub together the two parts of the egg, over a wastebasket, to sand them down.
- Have some extras of the various materials.
- During the preparations, check to see if the students will be able to peel off the circle sticker backing. If not, slightly peel back an edge (1/8" is enough) and firmly press to create. This gives the students something to grasp to remove. Repeat for all circle stickers.
- Instead of identifying students' projects with stickers, you can use small white jewelry tags with strings to tie onto the Humpty figure's feet.
- Draw hand (mitten and thumb shapes) and feet (ovals) on the board so that students can see in order to copy.
- If you have concerns about the students being able to safely break the toothpicks, break them beforehand and put the halves on their plates. (Break them inside a paper bag to catch any flying pieces.)
- Use a glue gun to attach any circle stickers that won't stick during play.
- If the wall tends to tip forward (or backward) adjust bricks on back, as needed.
- Save your sample to be able to use in future years when studying nursery rhymes and storytelling.

REFERENCES

Best Mother Goose Ever by Richard Scarry
Sing a Song of Mother Goose by Barbara Reid
Fairy Tale Sequencing by Joy Evans
The True Story of Humpty Dumpty by Sarah Hayes