

Aluminum Foil Sculpture



Clement Renzi, *Mandolin Player*, 1969, Bronze



Foil dinosaur

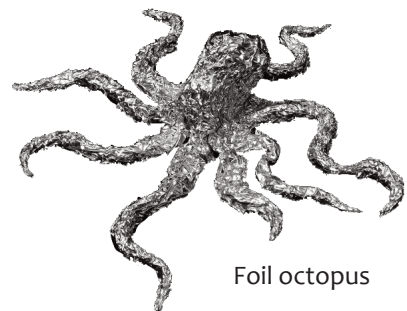
A fun activity to do at home with art materials you probably have on hand!



Henry Moore, *Maquette for Family Group*, 1945, Bronze



Humans in Action: student work from a FAM project



Foil octopus

Adapted from a Fresno Art Museum-created **ArtSmart** lesson.

Materials Needed:

Scissors

Aluminum foil squares (14 inches on a side is good, but you can work with any size square)

Extra foil for props and additional sculptures

Set-up the Project:

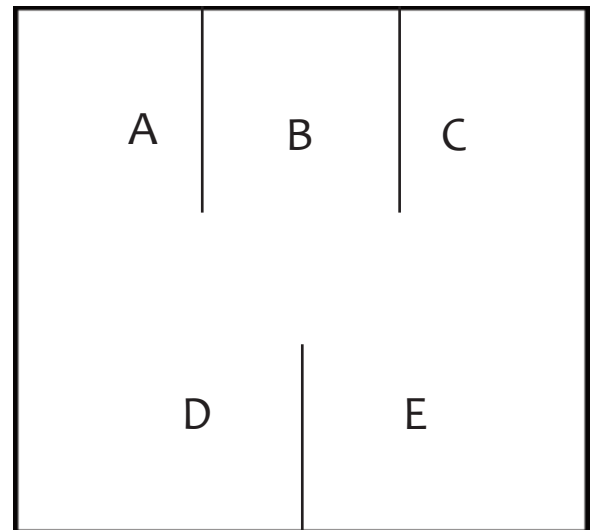
This is a very simple project and is made from materials you probably have at home. Your child can create a simple human or animal form out of aluminum foil. They can then advance to something more elaborate. You can encourage them to come up with ideas, having them focus on some activity they enjoy like making music, playing a sport, dancing, cooking or just about anything.

Your child is not limited to one figure (depending upon how much aluminum foil you are willing to part with.) They can create a group of forms around a theme—like a sports team, a rock band, an animal trainer. They are only limited by their imagination. They can work with a sibling or a parent could create, too, right along with the child. And their figures don't have to worry about social distancing! When the child or children have completed their group scenario, they can talk about it or even write a story about the scene they created.

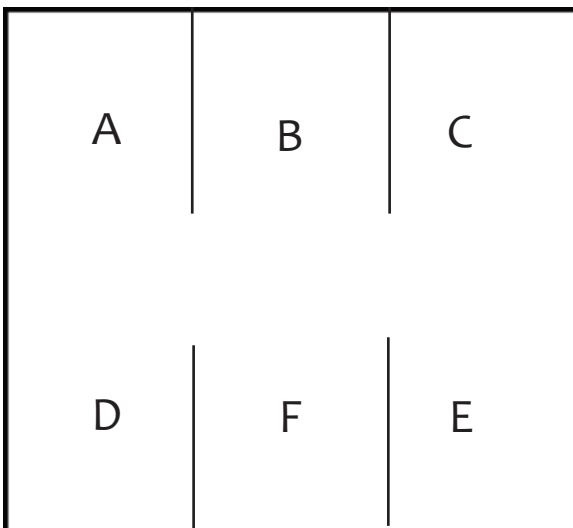
Procedure:

Start with a foil sheet and with scissors put three slits in the foil as shown in the diagram to the right. Of course, younger children may need some help with the cutting.

- Take section B and form it into a head. It should be about 1.5 inches in diameter. Do this gently, because once the foil is crunched, it is difficult to undo.
- Form sections A and C into arms or front legs for an animal.
- Sections D and E become the legs. For an animal with a tail, you can form the tail from section F.



pattern for human form



pattern for animal form

- Squeeze the middle section so that it becomes the torso or body.
- Once the figure is formed, shape it into the action figure you want it to portray.
- When the child or children have finished their individual sculptures, they can create the scenario by arranging the figures on a table or on a piece of cardboard appropriately.
- Provide extra pieces of foil for them to create props, clothes, hair, more people, animals, etc.

Resources: Learn more about sculpture

Books available for purchase online:

Marie, Dancing by Carolyn Meyer (Grade Level: 7 - 12)

This book is about a dancer who modeled for Degas.

3-D ABC: A Sculptural Alphabet by Bob Raczka (Grade Level: 3 - 6)

Look! Look! Look! at Sculpture by Nancy Elizabeth Wallace (Ages 5 - 8)

Sculpture (Eye on Art series) by Don Nardo (Grade Level: 7 - 10)

Sculpture: Three Dimensions in Art by Anne Civardi (Ages 9 and up)

Web resources:

<https://www.kitchentableclassroom.com/best-art-museum-websites-interactive/>

Free art resources from the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC:

<https://www.nga.gov/education.html>

There is not one great source for information or images of art on the local late artist Clement Renzi, but you can find info and some images at the following:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clement_Renzi

<https://www.gbsmithimages.com/renzi-statues.html>

<https://renzibook.com/>