

GASP AND FRIENDS

HANDBOOK (HOW TO DO IT)

3

- 1** INFLATABLE STRUCTURES.
- 2** MEDIA.
- 3** CRAFTS.
- 4** COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS.

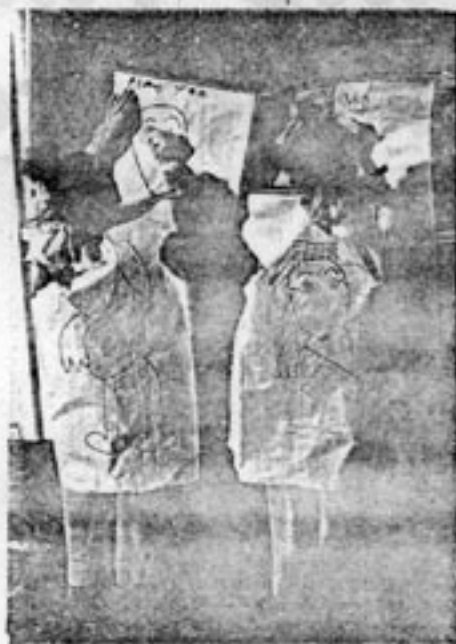
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Birmingham B8 3AG.
Telephone 021,327,4523. or 021,328,2038.

CARDBOARD AND PAPER

SOME IDEAS AND TECHNIQUES; THERE ARE MANY MORE.



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2



3



4



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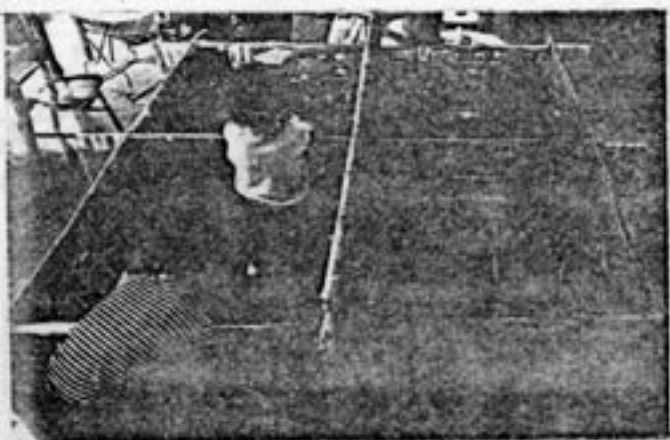
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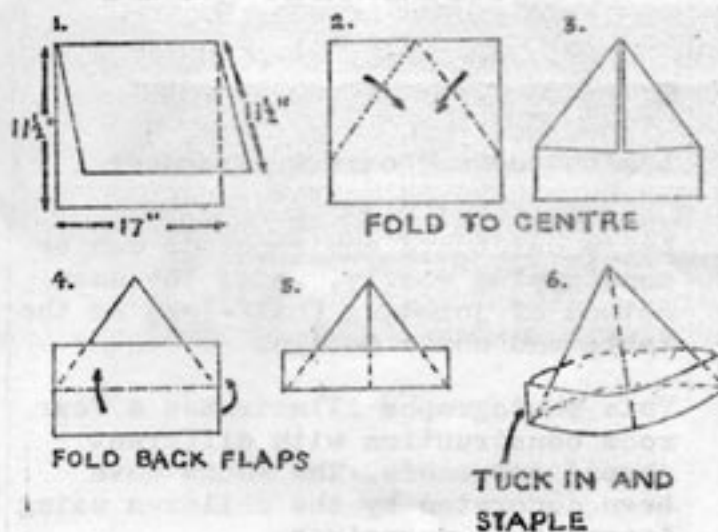
KEY

1-2

'Instant Costume', made from waste disposal bags. Crepe paper and felt tip markers are used for decoration. Three cuts with a knife or scissors and the costume is ready to wear.

3-4

'Paper Hats', made from old newspapers.



10



12

5

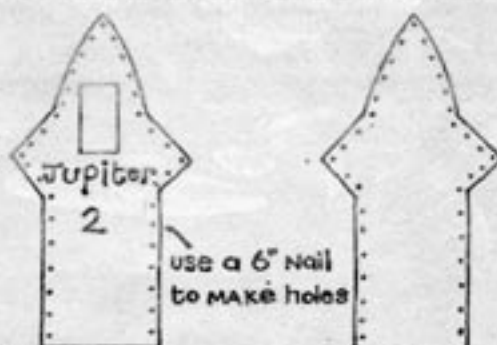
Stimulating movement with a severely handicapped child using a row of toilet roll centres, glued together with bright coloured tissue paper pushed in the tops.

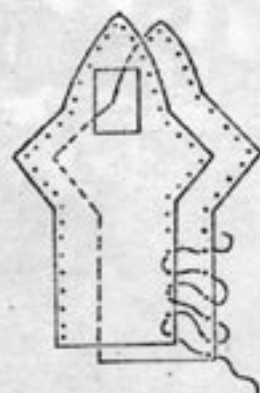
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Paper Environments using large areas of scrap paper cello taped together. Industrial packing papers often have very vivid designs on them and quantities can be obtained free of charge.

7

'Space Suits', constructed quickly using large sheets of cardboard.



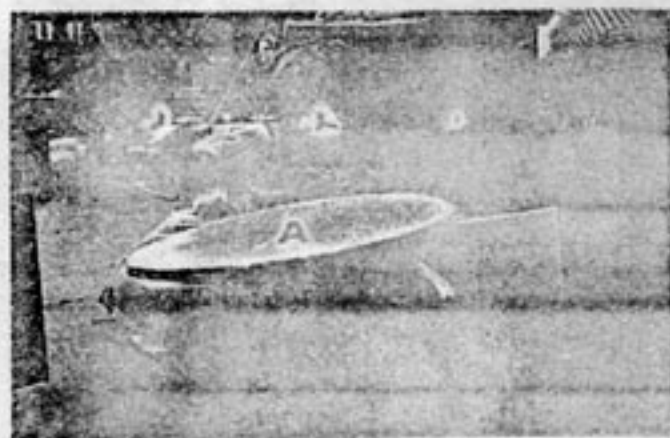
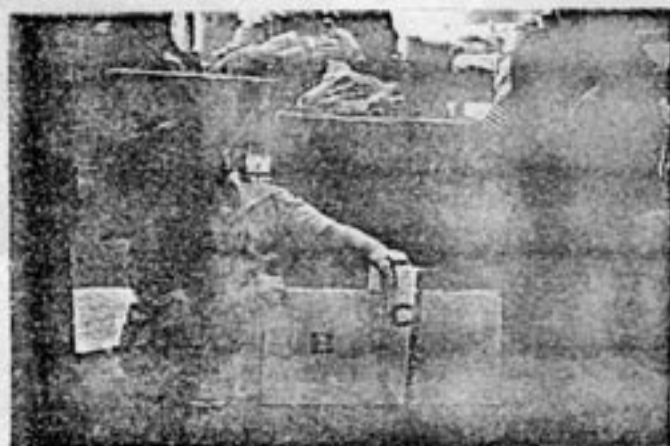


**DRAW THE SHAPE
OUT ON TWO SHEETS
OF CARD-CUT TO
SIZE AND PIERCE
HOLES-THREAD
TOGETHER USING
STRONG CORD. USE
A 6" NAIL FOR A
NEEDLE.**

8

Laminated cardboard furniture.

DESIGN FOR A TABLE OR CHAIR



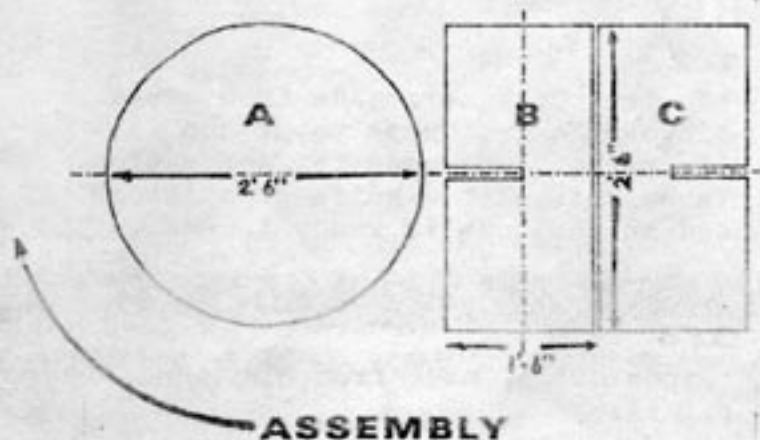
To construct cardboard furniture you will need to use fairly thick cardboard. A product called Tri-wall is ideal but costly. If you can acquire large sheets of ordinary packing case cardboard this can be laminated together using a polymer glue. Two or three thickness's is sufficient to produce a hard wearing piece of furniture.

The cardboard is corrugated and when laminating together the corrugations should run perpendicular to one another.

A sharp knife will cut the card but for speedier results use a Jig saw.

Joints can be glued together if desired and edges taped with masking tape to avoid fraying.

The application of one or two coats of emulsion paint will add colour to the structures and make them more durable.



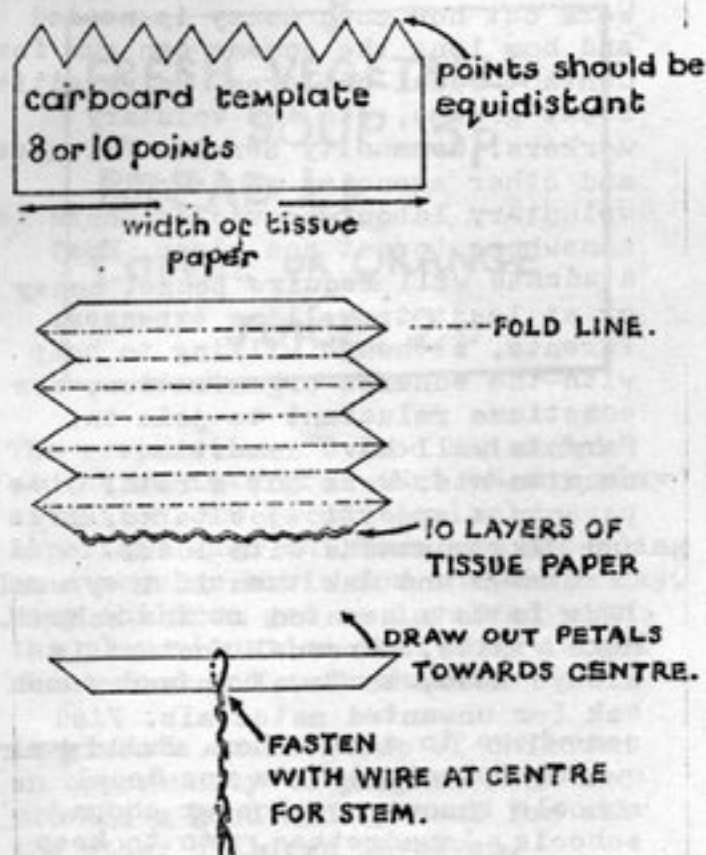
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Laminated Cardboard Environment.

Large cardboard environments can be constructed easily, using the same method of jointing (half-lap) as the table and chair design.

This photographs illustrates a four room construction with different shaped entrances. The rooms have been decorated by the children using images from magazines.

'Float Decoration' using as a basis tissue paper flowers and a thin wire framework.



Pliable green gardening wire or similar is ideal for the stem.

Always draw out the petals individually and avoid tearing.

11-12

'Banners' using large sheets of cardboard, gun stapled or nailed to timber supports.

notes on playschemes:

Playschemes need not just be a way of killing the school holiday blues. Although a good reason in itself there are many more positive aspects to a playschemes potential. They provide an opportunity whereby large or small numbers of children can come together to work and play in an informal atmosphere. Some of the activities may be no different to those offered at school but the way in which they are presented will be. Playschemes can help to establish meaningful relationships between adults and children. The main element of control should be such that it allows children to do things as opposed to preventing them.

Playschemes can be a start to more permanent play provision in an area. A piece of waste ground or corner in a park or building and some willing helpers need only be the essential ingredients.

Plan well in advance. At least three months before the scheme starts. Establish contacts with organisations already working in the area (schools, Social Services, playgroups, churches, residents associations) to see whether they can offer advice and support. If contacts are difficult to make produce a questionnaire to find out the amount of concern. It need only be a sample survey but it will provide an opportunity to meet people. Make contact with local shopkeepers. They will be very useful for displaying posters and supplying free materials. Invite all the contacts to a preliminary discussion. Ask along the local councillor. Discuss ideas and the whereabouts of the scheme. Set up regular meetings with interested people - the Playscheme Committee - who feel committed in some way; whether it be working on the scheme, offering resources or just moral support. Make sure that these meetings don't coincide with other local meetings or favourite television shows. Stage Jumble sales, raffles, dances, etc to raise funds. Apply to the Local Authority for financial support. Public House landlords and landladies

can be very helpful in raising funds. Work out how much money is needed and how long the scheme can run for. Contact local colleges, Universities, Scout groups, etc for voluntary workers. Community Service Volunteers and other agencies can supply voluntary labour providing there is somewhere to eat and sleep. Most students will require pocket money or at least travelling expenses. Parents, although willing to help with the schemes organisation, are sometimes reluctant to join in. Parents will have domestic commitments. Work out a rota. Give parents a specific job to do. Try and make contacts with local craftsmen and ask them if they would like to do a session at the scheme. Make visits, personal contact is always best, to local industry and ask for unwanted materials. Find somewhere to store them. Build your own equipment. Ask to use local schools resources. Poster shops, schools, laundrettes, etc to keep people informed of what's happening. Always try and increase the numbers of people willing to help. Local parakeeters and public works departments will often lend benches, ropes and stakes, etc. Ensure that the scheme is not too close to houses otherwise you will gain enemies as opposed to friends. Ask a local chemist to donate first-aid materials. Take out a public liability insurance to cover any accident claims. Contact the local fire-brigade and police to see whether they can do a demonstration. You never know when they might be useful.

There are many possibilities. However, do not be too ambitious. It is better to have catered for a small number of children than a large number and it fail. Always work within the limitations of available manpower and experience. Good organisation between the playscheme workers is the key to a good scheme.

TODAY'S MENU.

FRESH VEGETABLE

SOUP 3p

BREAD ½p

COFFEE OR ORANGE

JUICE 2p

The preparation of food and drink can be an integral part of any play situation. It is particularly important when children are attending on a regular basis for the whole day. Many children get so involved with the play situation that they forget about food and refreshment.

It gives a small group of children an opportunity to prepare food and provide a good midday meal for all the other children involved.

When working with large numbers of children it's wise to keep the menu simple. Providing you have some large pans, a fresh vegetable soup can be prepared by six children in two hours. Depending on the quantity you cook as many as one hundred can be catered for.

If it's a hot day and you are working outside, orange juice can be made-up in bulk at the start of the day and children can help themselves. Coffee can also be provided on a self-service basis.

If it is necessary, food and refreshment bars can be run on a cost basis. This gives the children an opportunity to deal with money and to ensure that funds collected one day are sufficient to purchase the raw materials for the next day.

Food preparation is a popular activity and so it may be necessary to run the kitchen on a rota basis with a different group of children taking responsibility each day.

Plastic cups are ideal for serving food and drink and contrary to popular opinion can be washed and used again. One hundred cost about £1.20 so it's a useful saving.

Water containers with taps on the bottom are ideal for serving orange juice and can be obtained free from pubs which sell sherry in bulk.

Bulk orange juice comes in plastic containers which can be later used for water.

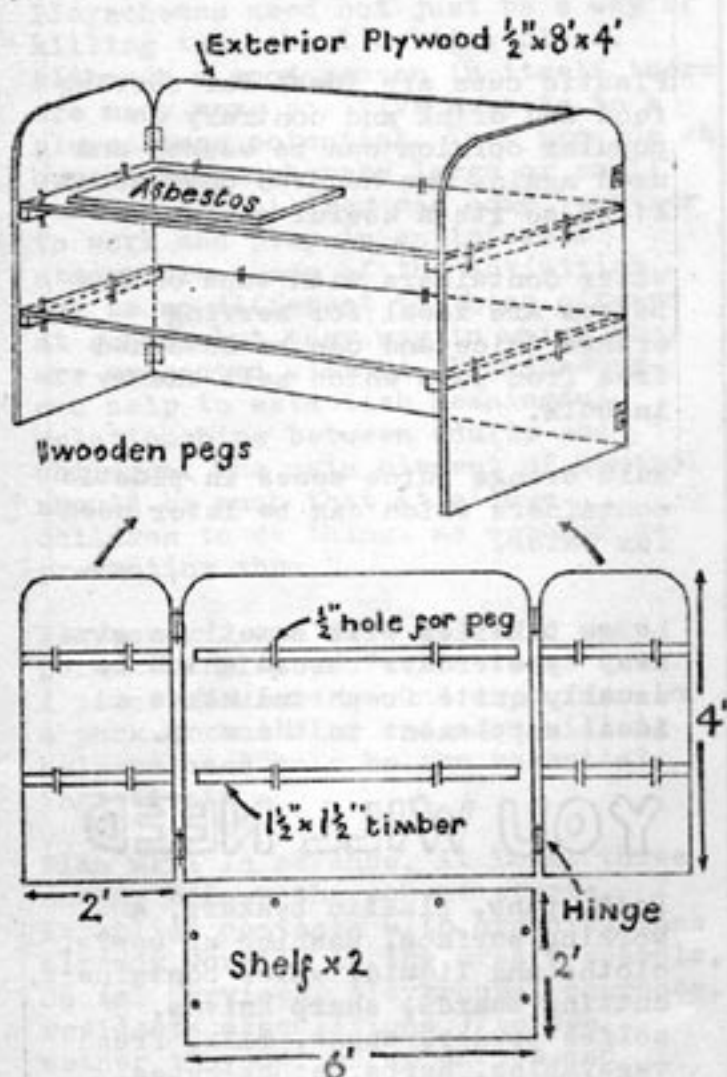
Large bakeries will sometimes give away 'yesterdays' bread which is usually quite fresh and makes an ideal supplement to the soup.

YOU WILL NEED

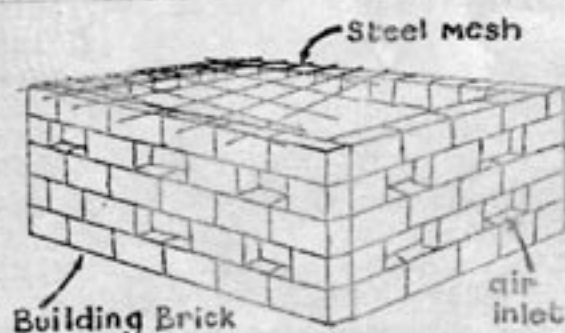
Pots, pans, plastic beakers, a working surface, washing up bowls, cloths and liquid, water containers, cutting boards, sharp knives, coffee powder, sugar, milk, fresh vegetables, herbs, stock cubes, assorted spoons and a heat source.



THE PLAYVAN KITCHEN UNIT

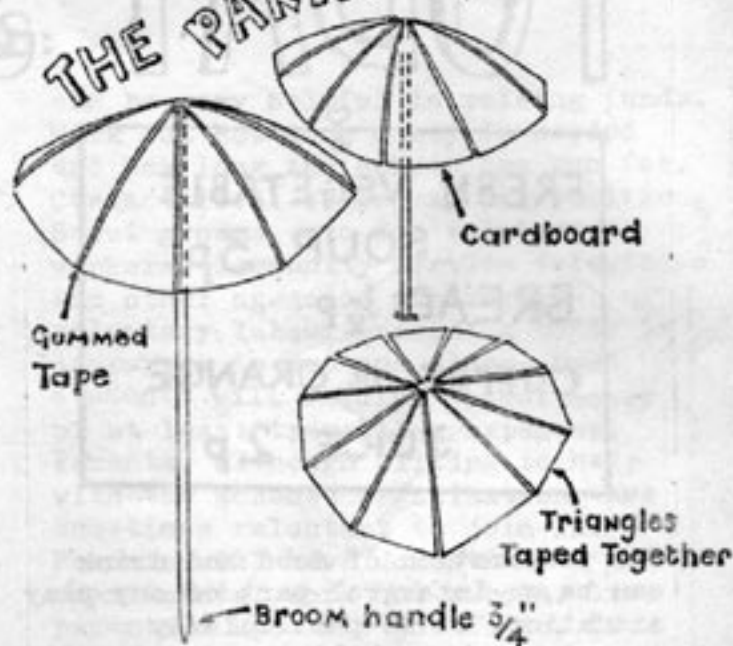


OUTDOOR FIREPLACE



You may find that the refreshment bar develops and necessitates the construction of tables and chairs (cardboard or timber) and parasols if you are out in the sun. These can be made from broom handles pushed in the ground with cardboard tops.

THE PARASOL



For a special event or community celebration the menu can be enlarged. Hot dogs and hamburgers can be purchased in bulk, or try a "Make your own sandwich bar". This will require a large working surface, plenty of paper plates, knives and a variety of fillings.

Hot potatoes can be prepared on open fires but it's wise to cover them with silver foil to prevent burning.

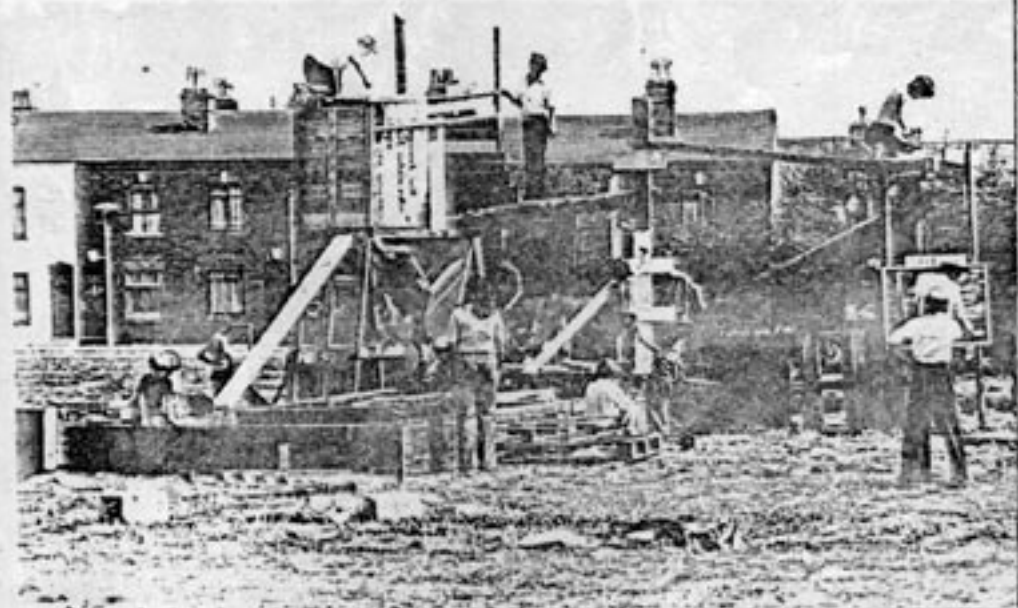
If necessary pre-cook them in a domestic cooker and then warm them up on site. You can create a character like "The Hot Potato Lady" with cooks hat, apron and sack of potatoes.

SUPERVISION

Supervision maybe necessary in the self-service situation to ensure that it is not abused and that all the children get a fare share.

Food preparation may provide a 'touch line' for parental involvement, or supervision by older children.

TIMBER·PAINT·NAILS.



This structure was built in three days as a part of a Summer Playscheme held on a piece of waste ground in Small Heath.

It involved about thirty children and remained intact for five days. It was built around two telegraph poles which were sunk into the ground and four old doors which were erected like playing cards. It incorporated a sand pit at the base, two slides, a swing and a lookout tower. It was built entirely from scrap material.

Those more physically orientated children will delight at the opportunity to saw, nail and paint rough timber into some kind of play environment.

The structures can be anything and everything. The one above was a 'Spaceship' for two days and just great fun for the other three.

Most construction materials can be obtained free of charge, old floor boards/timber from demolition contractors, nails from a local manufacturer or retailer, wooden pallets and crats from haulage contractors and old ladders and planks from builders yards. Care should be taken to remove all rusty nails etc; before handing the materials over to the children.

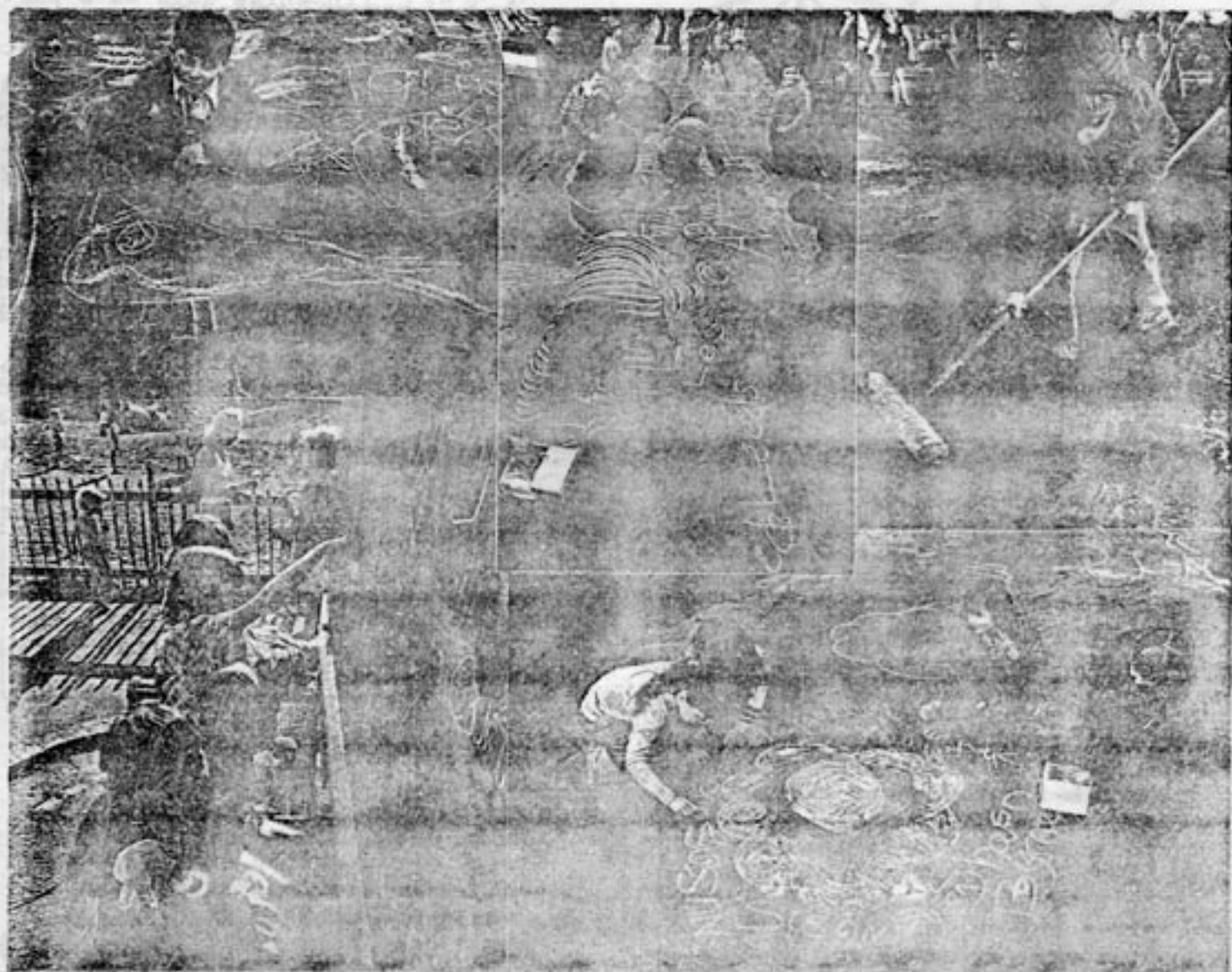
The site on which you are working should be either designated as an adventure playground or temporary provision for a playscheme. It should be well clear of housing so as not to disturb people with the hammering and banging. If structures have to be cleared away after a period of time then have a bonfire celebration.

Safety is the most important aspect of such a construction project. If possible this should

be achieved without limiting the ideas of the children involved and without completely removing the element of adventure. Play workers should supervise the basic construction onto which the children will nail their pieces of wood. This may involve sinking telegraph poles or similar stout timbers into the ground and cementing in place. Regular checks should be made to ensure that nails are properly driven in and that hand rails are constructed above a certain height (common sense). Floors should be built from suitable timber and rope swings should be well secured and not in the path of other structures or areas where children maybe involved in other activities.

Painting the structure will brighten it up and make it more acceptable to the passer-by. Emulsion paints are the most suitable as they dry quickly and are less messy than gloss paints. Always have buckets of water handy and if possible some old shirts for painting overalls. Make sure you have adequate tools, hammers, nail removers, saws and a sledge hammer and that they are clearly marked and returned at the end of the day. Pilot drilling the timber before using large nails will prevent splitting.

Chalking • Painting

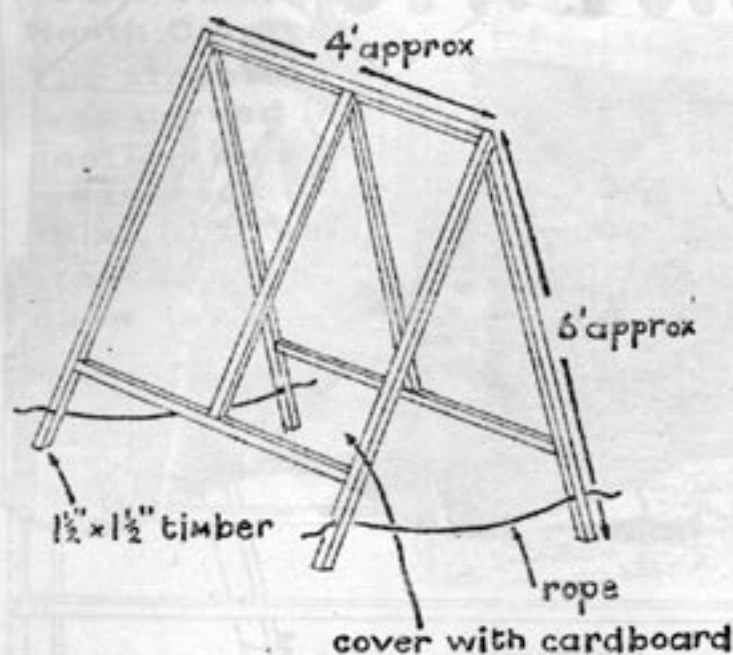


Chalking and painting are popular activities with most children, particularly when the situation is presented to them without the restrictions of a small piece of paper with an half inch margin.

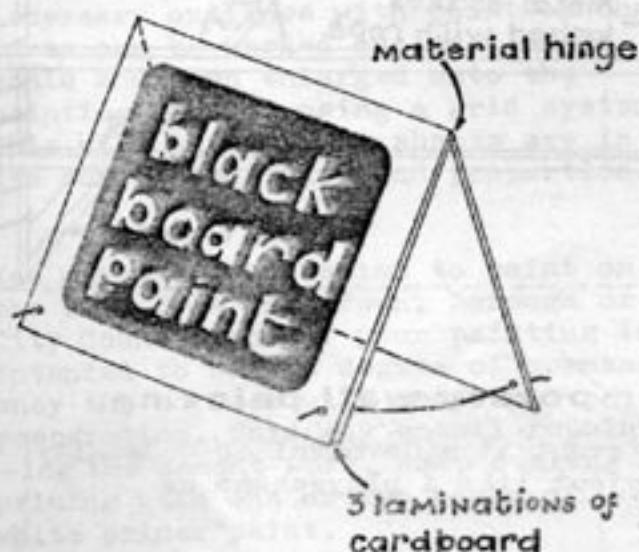
Chalk is the ideal medium for making marks on paths and walls where they may have to be cleaned off. In the case of Council Parks Department paths chalk will have to be cleaned off as it is contrary to certain bye-laws and regulations. Standard classroom chalk can be obtained in a wide variety of colours fairly cheaply from educational suppliers or large stationers. Thick sticks are also available and these are more suitable for drawing on rough surfaces like paths and walls as they break less easily.

Chalking can be based on a theme or totally free expression, applied to walls, paths, made-up surfaces, paper, cardboard, used to define games areas, "O and X's", "Hop Scotch", to decorate paper and material costume and lots more. Painting will require a little more supervision because of the possible damage to clothes, eyes and hair. Emulsion paint is the best medium as it washes off easily, dries fairly quickly and has a workable consistency. Powder paints can be used but need to be mixed thickly to avoid running and splashing.

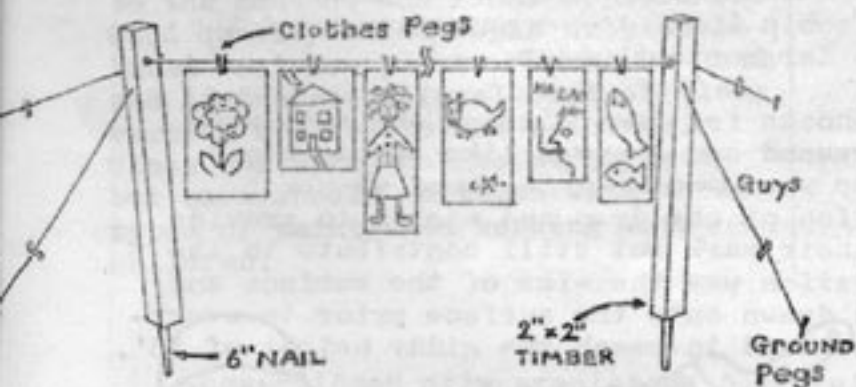
SOME WAYS OF CONSTRUCTING CHALKING, PAINTING SURFACES AND DISPLAY.



Basic Painting Frame.

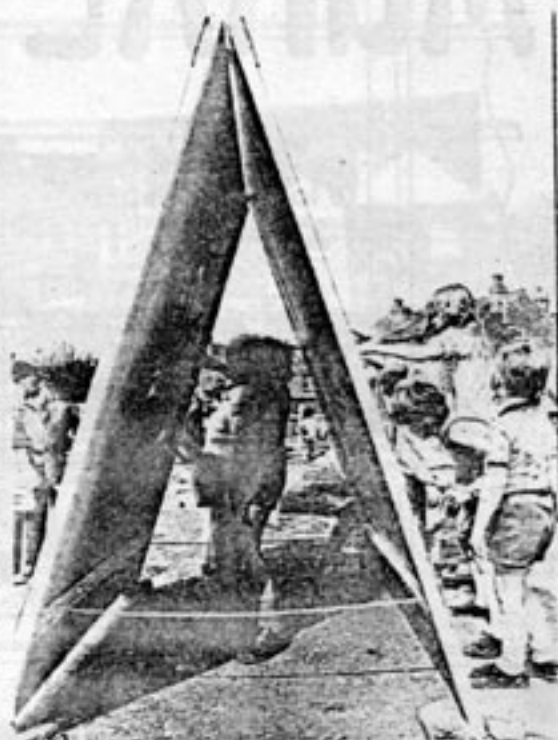


Simple Construction for a Chalking Surface.

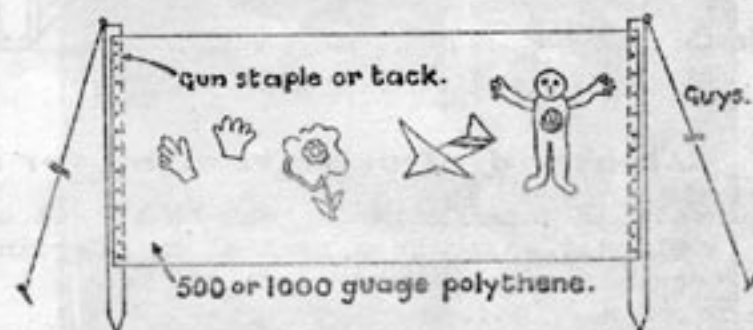


Display of Painting Outdoors.

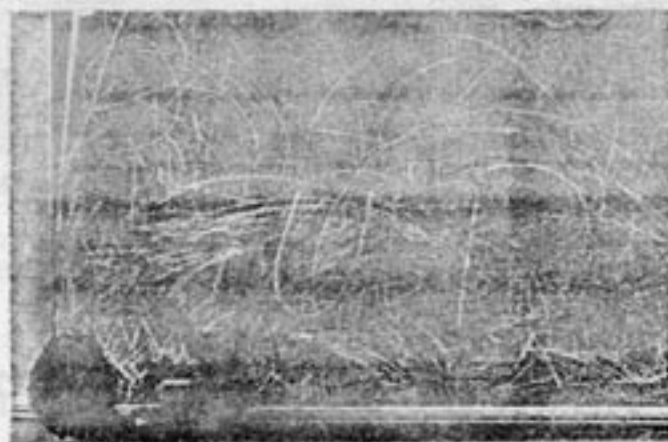
PAINING FRAME



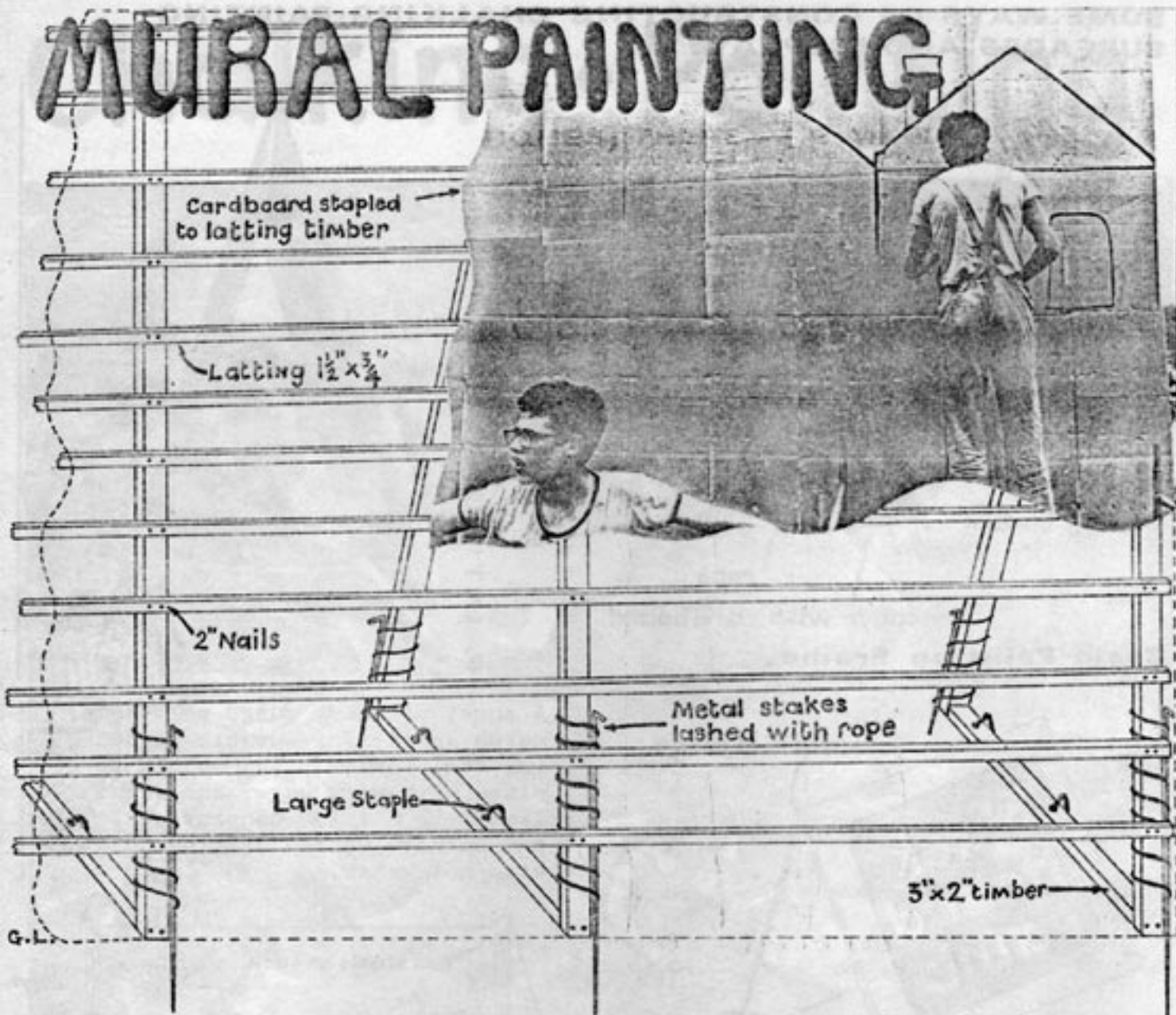
A sheet of heavy gauge polythene makes an ideal re-usable painting surface. Powder paint should be mixed with warm water and washing-up liquid to a thick consistency. This can then be washed off the sheeting with hot water.



**Reusable Painting Surface.
Chalking on the side of the Playvan.**



MURAL PAINTING



A Method of construction for a temporary wall painting.

Wall or mural painting can be staged as an event at a Carnival or Community Celebration or be a part of an on-going project like a playscheme or environmental improvement scheme.

The mural painting illustrated on these pages was a part of the Small Heath Carnival held in Small Heath Park in August 1976. The temporary painting surface took two hours to build and provided an activity for six hours during the day. The timber and metal stakes were salvaged for use again. The cardboard sheeting was obtained from a local box manufacturer and the damaged tins of emulsion paint from a large stockholder.

A basic theme of a street scene was chosen for the painting and this was reinforced by the play workers who dressed and behaved like painters and decorators throughout the day. A theme was necessary because we were working with a large shifting population of children and wished to provide an opportunity for everyone to make their mark but still contribute to the overall idea. The only physical limitation was the size of the surface and the black outline of houses and shops drawn onto the surface prior to everyone painting. Portable scaffolding was used to reach the giddy height of 15'. The paint was decanted into manageable sized containers with handles and plenty of clean water was available for washing hands and brushes. A suitable alternative medium would have been powder paint mixed with washing up liquid and warm water.

**Small Heath
Street, painted
at the Small
Heath Carnival.**

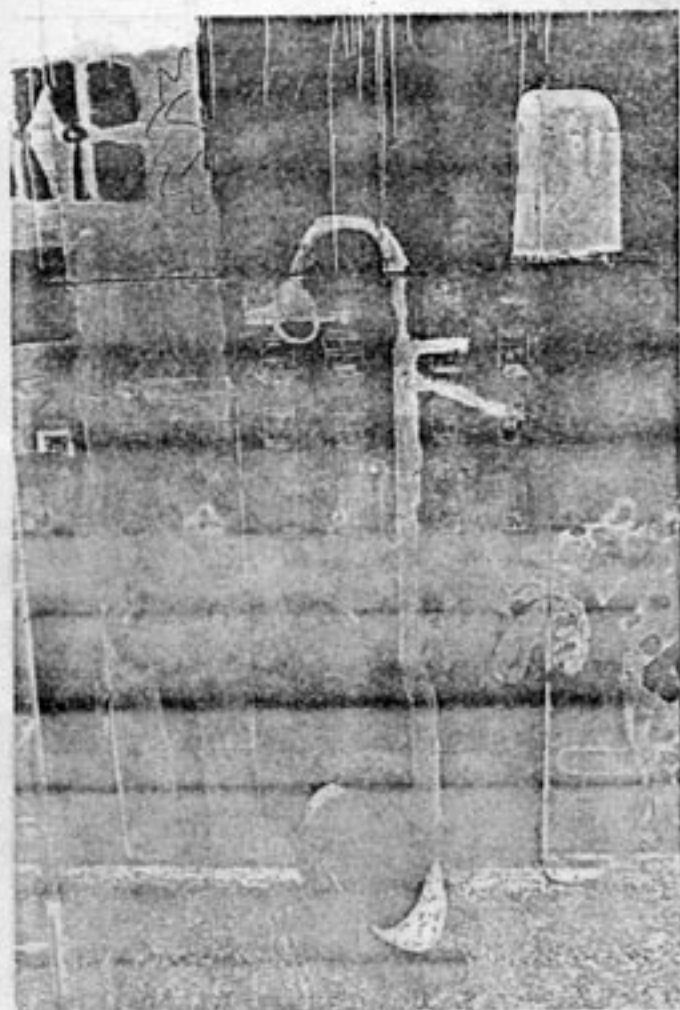
**The structure
was curved in
section and
measured
15' x 40'. It was
erected on a
calm day.**



Painting on existing wall surfaces maybe approached in the same way, choosing a theme and drawing in the necessary outlines with paint or chalk. Ideas can be worked out on a small scale and then enlarged onto the painting surface using a grid system. This will ensure that shapes are in the correct position and proportion.

You may need permission to paint on the wall from your Town, Borough or City Council and if your painting is intended to have a degree of permanency the surface will require preparation. This may entail repointing the cement work, damp sealing and priming with one or two coats of white primer paint.

If the painting is in a public place careful consideration should be given to the content and final appearance. Good quality thixotropic or plastic based emulsion paints should be used and if desired a final coat of clear varnish applied to the painting. Gloss and spray paints maybe used but care should be taken with these types of paint when working with children.



Detail.



BRUSHES

$\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ 1" x 2"

BUCKETS



SIDE SHOWS.....

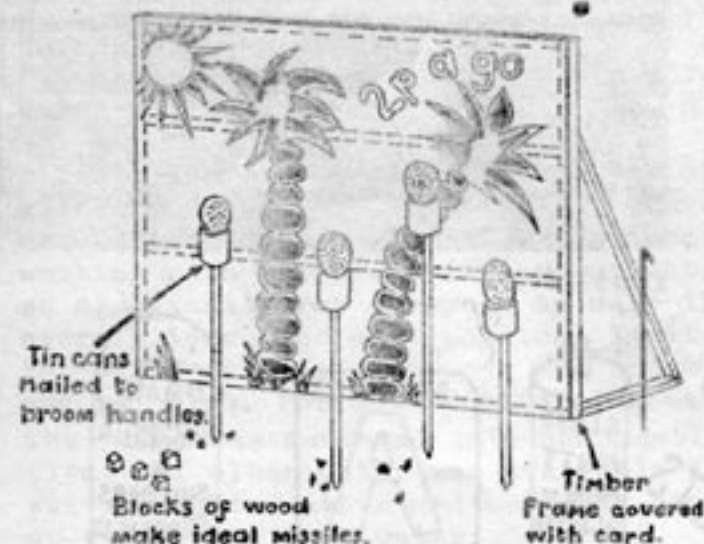
Side shows for fetes and community celebrations can be constructed in the same way as the temporary wall painting surface but on a smaller scale.

A sports and fete day maybe the climax of a playscheme, involving both parents and children in the preparation. Side Shows and stalls will have to be constructed and painted. The bric-a-brac, Hot Dog, refreshment stand and stalls will need display boards and advertising. Flags, start and finish posts will have to be constructed for the race track. Posters advertising the event will be needed for local shops and markets.

TWO POPULAR STALLS.....



COCONUT SHY!



FACE PAINT



Face painting is a very popular activity with children and what may start as body decoration could lead into a drama situation. Face paint is similar to a mask, wearing it does away with many inhibitions.

There are a number of commercial face paints available which give excellent results but they are relatively expensive. An in-expensive way of making face paints is achieved by using this method:-

MIX EQUAL QUANTITIES OF SOAP FLAKES AND POWDER PAINT IN HOT WATER. ADD CORN FLOUR MIXED IN COLD WATER AND STIR UNTIL BRIGHT* THICK AND CREAMY. LIKE WATER BASED PAINTS THEY ARE RE-USABLE IF STORED IN SEALED JARS. THIS MIXTURE WASHES OFF VERY EASILY. BE SURE TO HAVE MIRRORS AVAILABLE!

GREAT FUN AT FESTIVALS FETES AND PLAYSCHMES.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

In general youth groups have a traditional recreational base which may include a disco, table tennis, snooker, darts and board games.

If your group is well attended and your nightly subscriptions amount to a large fund you may be inclined to purchase manufactured equipment. This will certainly enable you to get activities off the ground quickly but you may find that the youth members do not respect the equipment as much as if they had made it for themselves.

Building your own equipment should involve both the boys and the girls. In addition to saving money they will be learning valuable carpentry skills.

This section illustrates how to build two of the more expensive base items used by youth groups. A manufactured table tennis table can cost upwards of £70 and a half size snooker table as much as £80. However, the skills required for the construction of both are relatively simple and all the materials used are readily available and you may get some for free. The combined cost of both items is approximately £40.

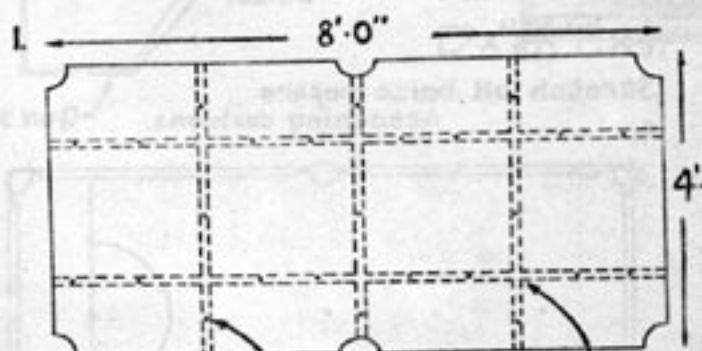
The construction of a disco unit is not included in this section because it will require the purchase of an amplifier, turntables and speakers. There are many different types available and you should consult a Hi-fi specialist as to the suitability of equipment before starting such a project. Amplifiers, turntables and speakers are available in kit form and you can build all your own cabinets.

Building snooker cues is a specialist trade but you can buy a reasonable cue for £5. A new set of balls for this table will cost £16 new but second hand sets are available.

CONSTRUCTING A BILLIARD TABLE

Materials:

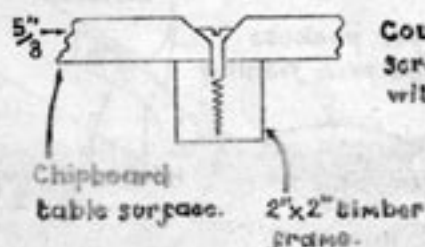
1 sheet high density chip board 8'x4' x 5/8".
Frame; 28'x 2"x2" Planed timber.
Cushions; 24'x2"x2" Planed timber cut to section illustrated.
Green Baize to cover table area.
Wood glue, access to a jig saw, gun stapler, 2 1/2" screws etc.,
24'x1 1/2"x1 1/2" hard rubber, small tacks and contact adhesive.



Remove pocket space with jig saw.

Glue and screw frame to underside of table.

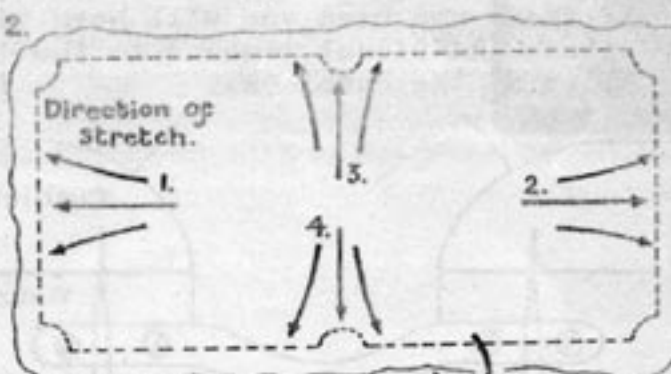
2"x2" timber frame - half lap joints.



Countersink all screws and cover heads with plastic wood.

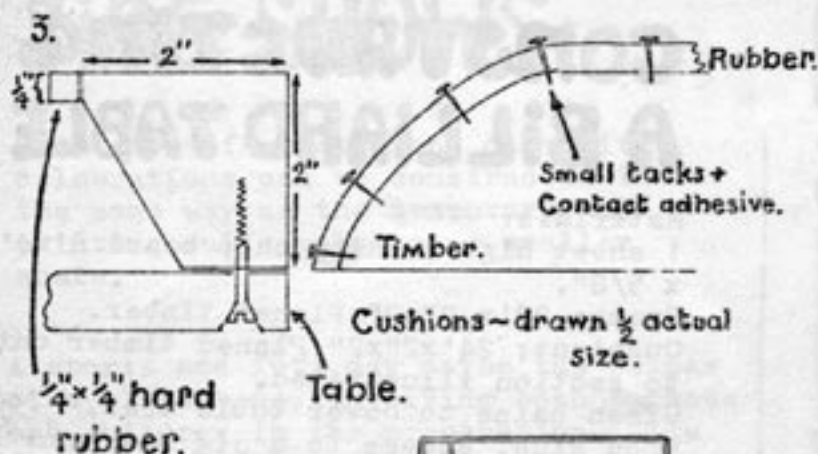


Pocket sizes ~ 1/2 actual size.



Green Baize.

Gun staple to underside of table.



Cushions required:

2 x 3' 6" x □

4 x 3' 8 1/2" x □

Stretch all baize before attaching cushions.

4.

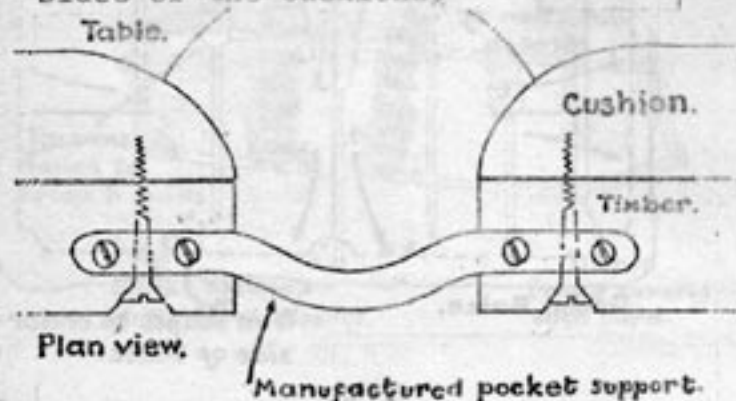


Net suitable for pockets can be obtained from fishing tackle shops.



Pockets and pocket supports are available from billiard table manufacturers and a set to suit this size of table costs about £5.00.

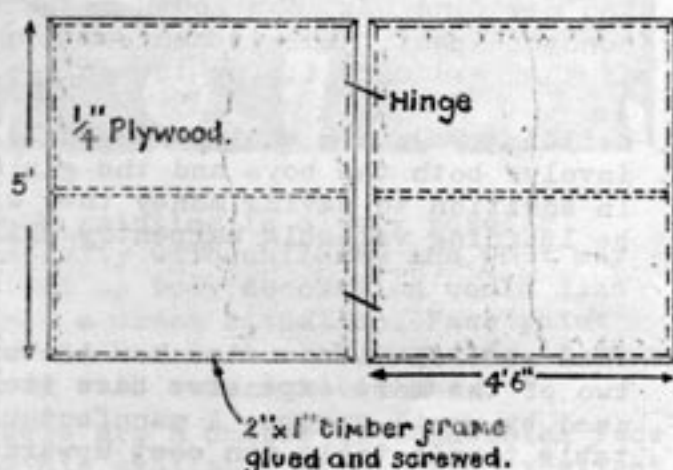
If these are used you will have to attach additional timbers to the sides of the cushions.



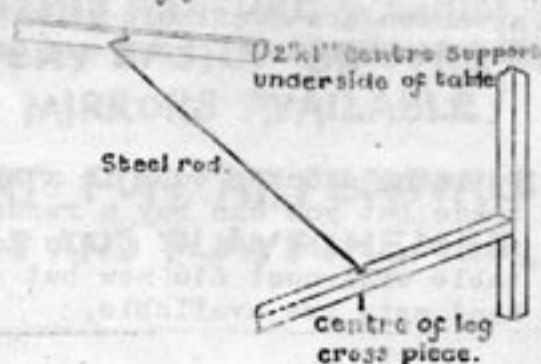
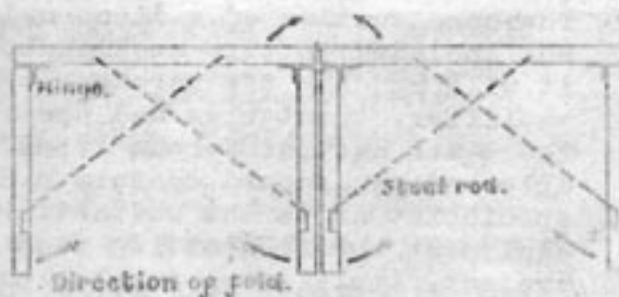
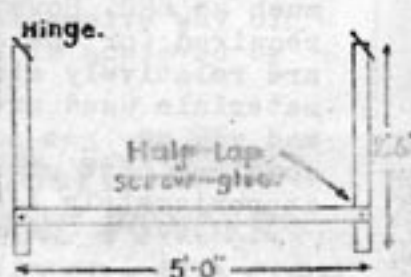
Your completed Snooker Table can be supported on existing tables providing that they are a suitable height. If you wish you can build two tressels to support the table. Information concerning the size of balls, cues etc, are available from manufacturers.

TABLE TENNIS

A first class table tennis table can be built for a fraction of the cost of a manufactured table. Building one to these specifications will cost you approximately £15 to £20.

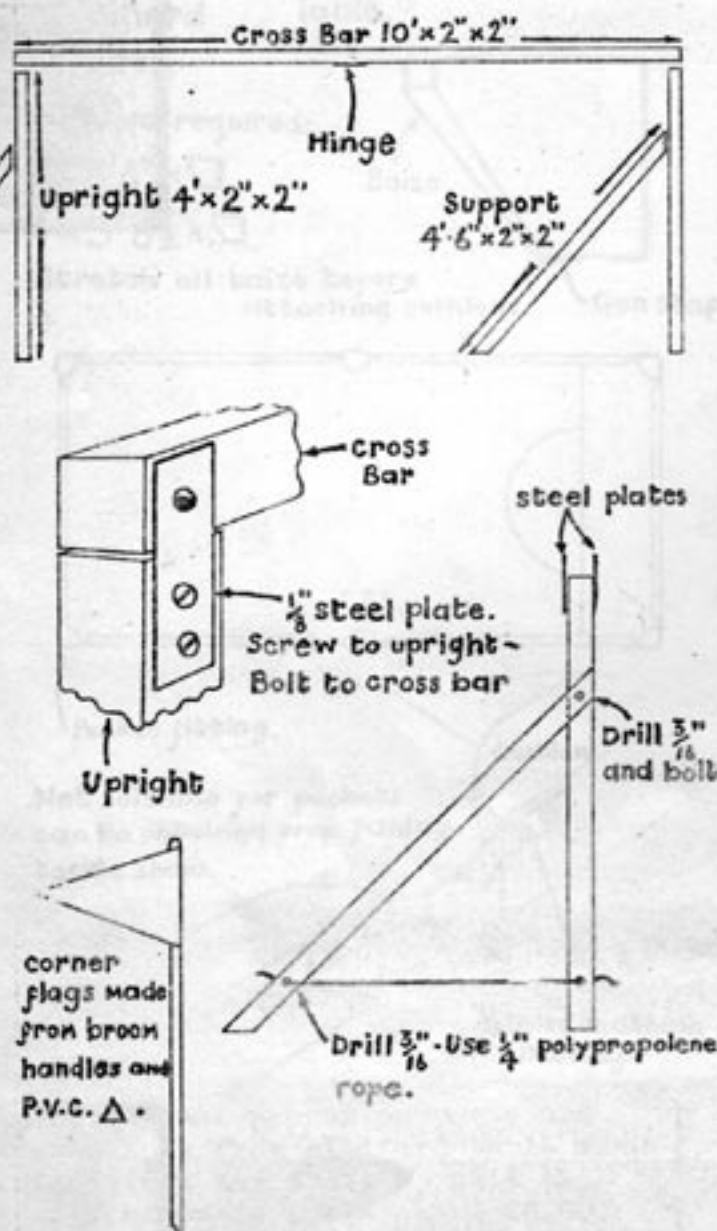


Legs constructed from 2" x 2" timber. The 4-leg sets are hinged to the table and held in position with 1/2" steel rod.



S-a-side football and netball. Building portable equipment.

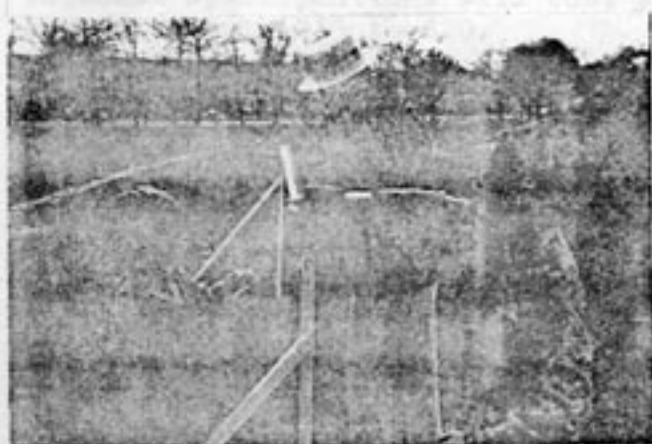
Constructing the goals and corner flags.



Football is a competitive sport with the inevitable 'winners' and 'losers' situation. However, if the children express a desire to play and compete then there is no reason why this desire should not be fulfilled. If a large number of children are involved they can organise their own league and cup knockout competition. The 'final' of which maybe staged in the traditional celebrated manner. This event may well provide a 'touchline' for parental interest and involvement.

The goal posts and corner flags constructed in this way are fairly portable pieces of equipment.

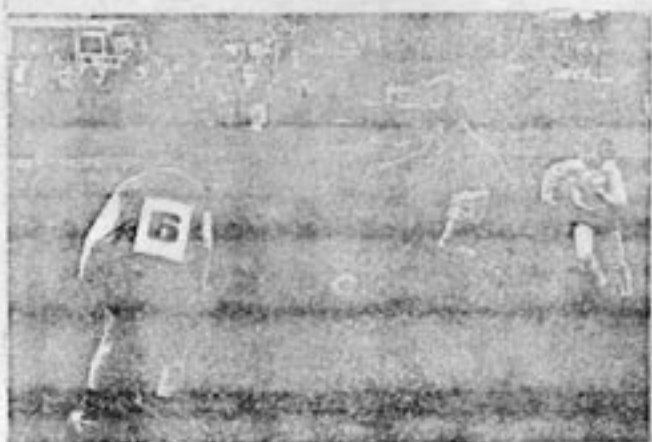
Providing the cross bar is hinged, everything folds away to a maximum length of five feet.



ERECTING THE GOAL POSTS



MANCHESTER UNITED AND FRIENDS



CUP ACTION



"GOAL!"



CUP CELEBRATIONS

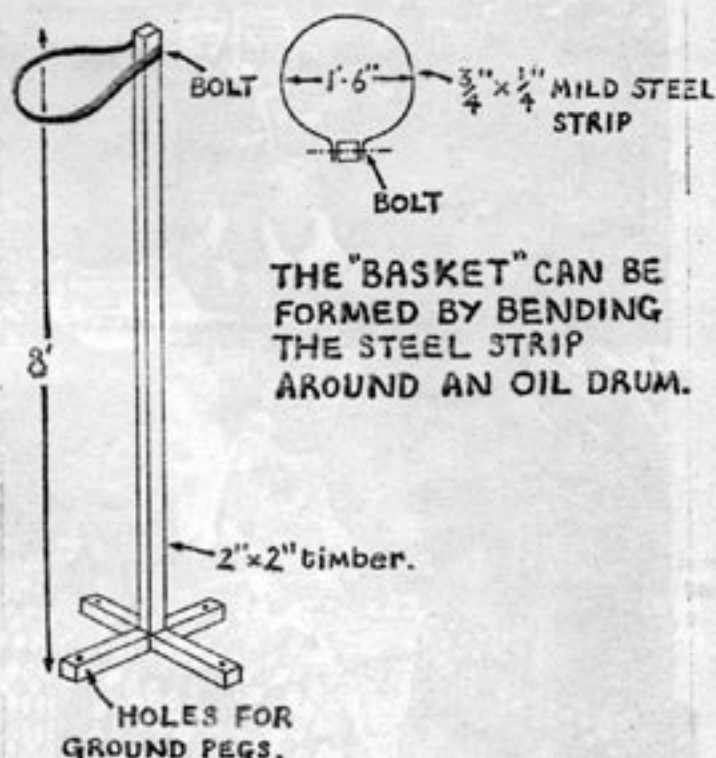


"THAT'S FOOTBALL" THE DIGBY CUP—
SILVER FOIL AND CARD

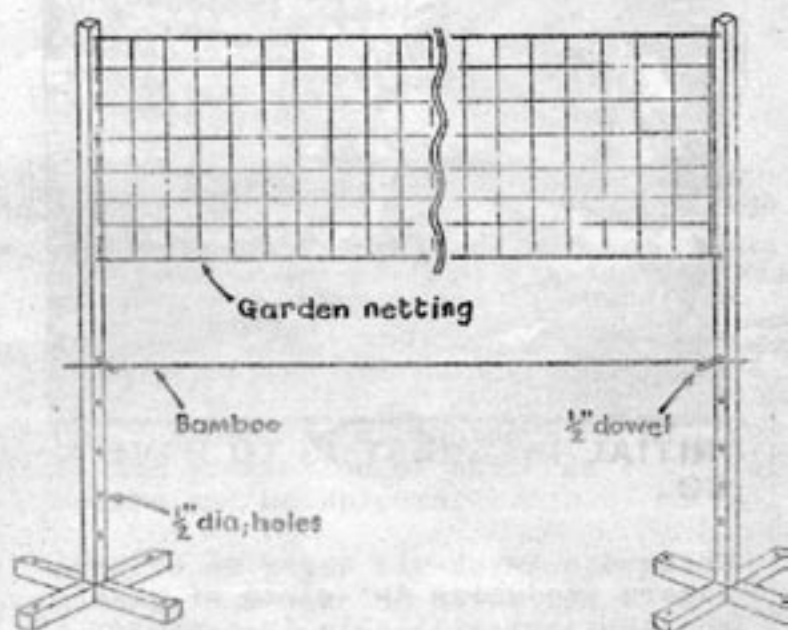
Football is very much a game for the lads. However, supporters maybe involved in the building of banners, singing of songs and supporting their favourite team.

Sports activities are popular with most children but commercially manufactured equipment is expensive. However, by building your own equipment you not only save money but a single item can be used in several ways.

NETBALL~BASKET BALL



THE "BASKET" CAN BE FORMED BY BENDING THE STEEL STRIP AROUND AN OIL DRUM.



VOLLEY BALL~HIGH JUMP

With the addition of hooks and holes drilled into the two netball/basket ball frames you can play volley ball or use the structure for high jump. You may need to add some guy ropes to each frame. Ground pegs can be made from $\frac{1}{2}$ " steel rod.

Polaroid Picture of the Day KIDS MEDIA



INITIAL INTEREST IS TO HAVE A GO.

There are two basic types of Polaroid camera producing two sizes of print and they are available in a number of models. Camera's can cost between £15 and £40 depending on the model. The price of the film varies according to the amount purchased but costs about £1.50 for eight black and white prints. Colour film is more expensive and has to be used with the correct model of camera. Precise instructions for use are attached to the camera.

The Polaroid Camera is an extremely simple camera to use with immediate results. It is possible in a day to achieve a certain amount of discipline in the choice of subject matter and a basic practical knowledge of the camera.

The initial interest is to "Have A GO" and because the prints are processed rapidly it is possible to display them almost immediately.



DISPLAY.

Display will create additional interest for people who will be able to see at a glance previous events and perhaps encourage them to have a go.

The first prints processed maybe out of focus, under exposed or suffer from camera shake. Interest however, may develop into obtaining and perfecting the techniques of the process with an end result of a good clear image.



A POLAROID PHOTOGRAPH, OUT OF FOCUS, CAMERA SHAKE.

The learning process will progress to the assessment of relevant subject content and the further use of photography.



RELEVANT SUBJECT CONTENT.



GOOD CLEAR IMAGE.

If you are using the Polaroid camera in a variety of locations with different groups of children, a photograph album will prove an interesting addition to your equipment.

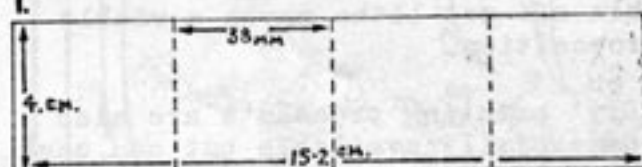
A large album made from sugar paper with a stiff card cover can be used to mount the photographs after they have been displayed. Children may wish to write stories next to their photographs which can be viewed by other children at the next place of work.

Another simple method of taking a photograph at little expense is with a Pinhole Camera. All you will need is some card, matt black paint, masking tape, a little silver foil and a 126 Film Cartridge.

Pinhole Camera's are easy to build, cost very little and take surprisingly good quality photographs.

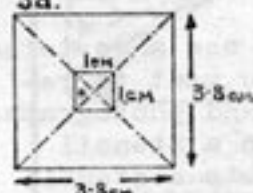
Building a Pinhole Camera.

1.



Card 1mm Thick. Sizes must be exact!

3a.



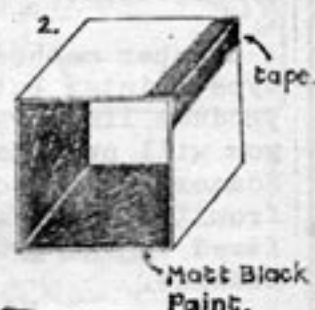
* Remove 1cm square piece of card.

3b.

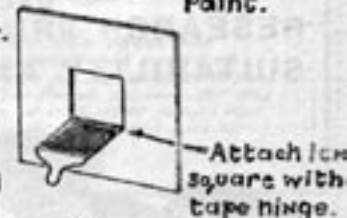


* Tape in position silver foil with pinhole. (actual size →)

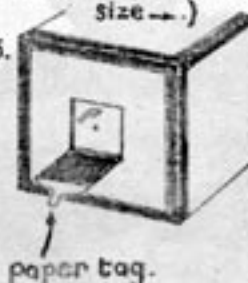
2.



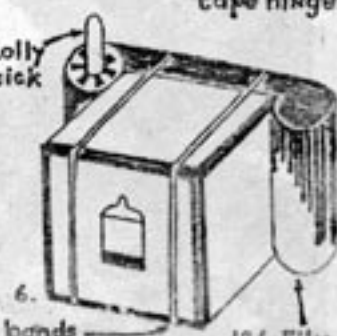
4.



5.



Lolly Stick



Taking a picture.
Shut the flap and turn the lolly stick slowly until the third and fourth number '1' are both showing in the yellow window at the back of the cartridge. Rest the camera on a flat surface, pointing at your subject. Lower the flap to expose the pinhole. Allow 2-10 seconds in bright weather and 5-20 seconds in dull weather before closing the flap. Wind on the film. Take another picture.

One further use of photography is in the production of children's comics and newspapers.

A comic or paper may develop from a long term working situation like a Playscheme when sufficient children express a desire to communicate their ideas about what is happening, forthcoming events or topics that interest them.

Before embarking on the production of a comic or newspaper, access too and knowledge of printing process's should be researched.

There are a number of printing/copying process's but commercial printing rates vary. Off-set litho is widely used for reproducing both photographic images and print. If your paper or comic has a circulation of one hundred or more then off-set litho maybe a viable proposition.

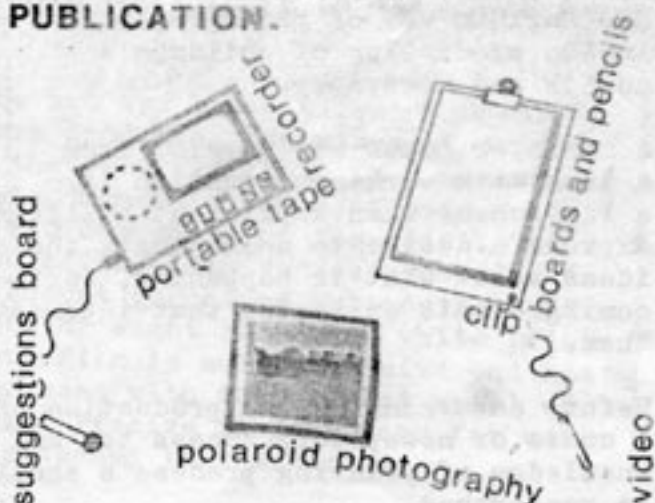
'Dry' printing process's are also commercially available but can cost as much as six pence per single copy and not all machines will reproduce photographs.

A cheaper method is to use a gestetner type printer but if you want to reproduce line drawings and photographs you will need access to a Stencil Scanner. This machine cuts a stencil from the original which is then transferred to the drum of the printing machine.

RESEARCH PRINTING PROCESS'S, SUITABILITY AND COST!



COLLECTING MATERIAL FOR THE PUBLICATION.



After the "editorial" group have been introduced to the various printing process's available material is collected for the publication. Clip boards are the essential item of equipment and these can be made from hardboard.

Accumulate all the relevant material, stories, jokes, puzzles, pictures, drawings and news items. The editorial group will then have to make the following decisions:-

1. What material to include.
2. The size and number of pages of the comic or paper.
3. What it is to be called.
4. How and where it will be distributed.
5. How much it will cost to print.
6. How much it will have to be sold for, if anything?.
7. Make-up layouts for printing.

LAYOUTS or PASTE-UP'S

"Layouts or Paste-up's" are the terms used to describe the process of glueing your photographs, printed word and drawings etc;, onto paper or thin card of the size you wish to print.

Some useful items for layout work are:- felt tip pens, pencils, a craft knife, steel ruler, letter stencils, transfer lettering, clear adhesive, opaque and a layout pad.

For example; a two page comic printed on both sides of the paper.



right hand page left hand page

r.h. l.h.

Margins are important

Accurate margins are only necessary if you require a formal approach. However, most printing machines need a "grip" space so its wise to have at least an half inch margin on all sides of the layout.



DISTRIBUTION.

Distribution need not necessarily be the responsibility of the "editorial" group. Another group of children may want to do this and their activities can include making advertising posters, approaching local newsagents, selling the paper to friends or delivering it free door to door and making newspaper stands etc;.

'FINAL EDITION'

THE DIGBY

Spikoy by Sharon Byrne

King Kono by David Kelly

COMIC

'STOP PRESS'

FOOTBALL SPECIAL

2p

I DON'T LIKE THIS GAME. IT'S TOO HARD. I WISH THERE WERE SLIDES AND STUNDS. HE ALL.

PUT A SWIFTING POOL IN THE MIDDLE SO WE CAN JUST DIVE IN.

IT'S GREAT!

THIS SATURDAY

T.A.T. WILL BE COMING TO PLAY SOME FUNNY GAMES TRY AND BEING SOMETHING THAT MAKES A NOISE. LIKE A WHISTLE OR A DRUM A BELL A TINGLING OR A NOISE OF OUR SOMETHING TO END. EVERYONE BEING A NAT. TWO D-SLOTT.

PLAYVAN

PLAYVAN MADE THIS COMIC WITH YOUR WORDS AND PHOTOGRAPHS. IT COULD BE BIGGER AND BETTER IF YOU WANT IT TO BE WITH STORIES AND THINGS TO DO IN IT. DECIDE OR WRITE SOMETHING ON THE LAST PAGE AND SOME OF IT WILL GO IN THE NEXT ISSUE. HOW MUCH SHOULD IT LAST? WHAT WOULD YOU WANT TO CALL IT?

YOU CAN'T GO ANYWHERE ELSE TO PLAY AND THE EFFECT THERE IS SMALL. MEANTH AND THINGS ACROSS THE COUNTRY HEAD.

On Saturday I started filming thanks to a couple of men. He gave me a camera that when you pressed the trigger it starts filming. It does not take separate pictures it moves. So I filmed all of zimmerville road. old houses, cars, people. also my mate was talking in the mike. I filmed my house and then went up st. benedicts and into the park. Then we intervaude a lady and filmed some more. I liked it very much thanks to those men.

Making use of hand and transfer lettering, childrens drawings, stories transcribed from tape recordings, bubble captions and photographs.

digby comic

PLAYVAN HAS BEEN WORKING IN DIGBY PARK FOR THE LAST FIVE SATURDAYS. THIS SATURDAY WILL BE THE LAST VISIT OF PLAYVAN BEFORE IT MOVES ON TO ANOTHER PLAYSITE IN THE AREA.

WE WOULD LIKE TO SHOW YOU SOME OF THE WORK WE HAVE DONE AND DISCUSS WITH YOU WHAT MIGHT BE DONE FOR CHILDREN AT DIGBY PARK IN THE FUTURE.

WHY NOT COME ALONG AND MEET US THIS SATURDAY

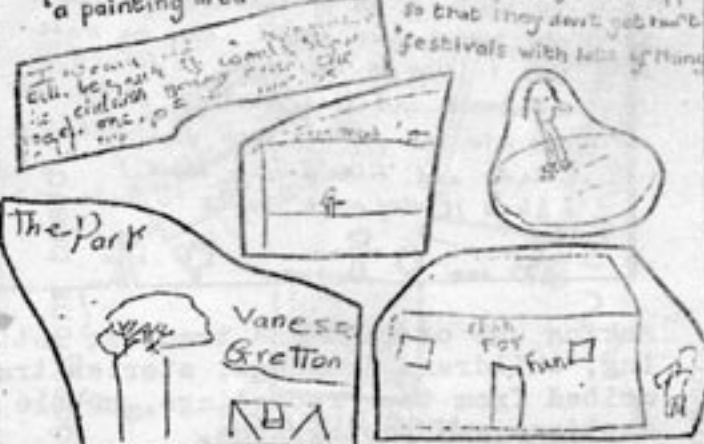


An invitation for local parents to the final days activity.

"A message from Captain Playvan
Victor Vides • Warp Factors
and all our friends."

"Thanks for the good
times and all your ideas for
Digby Park • and Keep Smiling"

"a paddling pool for the nippers" club house for boys and girls
"a five a side football pitch" a shop "inflatables"
"a chalking wall" "slides" "swings" "table tennis"
"netball nets" "a playleader" "a boating pool"
"a painting area" "a separate playspace for the nippers"
"festivals with lots of things"



LADY KYLE IDIAS
GEOFFREY LEWIS ALEY IDIAS
PETER WILKINS JAMES
MARK LOUIS EDITH
STEPHEN GOSSET ALL OTHERS.

312/15



IS THIS WHAT YOU WANT FOR YOUR ROAD?

DURING THE PAST FEW WEEKS 'PLAYVAN' HAS BEEN MAKING REGULAR VISITS TO THE BOTTOM OF OUR ROAD. BUT WHAT IS THE FUTURE OF THIS SITE 'A YOUTH CENTRE' 'AN ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND' ALL THIS DEPENDS ON YOU.

ABOVE IS THE PICTURE OF A SMALL PORTION OF OUR SITE. SEVERAL ACCIDENTS HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY SOME OF YOU WHO HAVE BEEN CARELESS ENOUGH TO HAVE DISPOSED OF YOUR LITTER HERE.

The cover of the "Newlands Road Paper" which was reported, edited and off-set litho printed by a group of teenagers. They chose a polaroid photograph of the rubbish on the local play space with a large question mark for the front cover of both editions.

They distributed it free to all houses in the area as a part of their campaign to get something done about the site.

A page from the final edition of the "Digby Comic" which included some of the childrens suggestions for the future of the park.

The material for the "Digby Comic" was collected by the children. However, due to the lack of on-site 'layout' facilities the comic was edited and printed by playworkers.

There were five editions of the comic which was circulated by the children.

Between fifty and sixty copies of each edition were sold for two or three pence a copy to off-set the cost of printing. This was requested by the children because they wanted it to be like any other comic.

VIDEO

Video is "Make your own television" equipment and the more favoured portable models consist of a portable video tape-recorder, a lightweight electronic camera and a power unit. The principle involved in recording is the same as the ordinary domestic tape-recorder, except that with video both sound and picture are recorded instantly onto $\frac{1}{2}$ " or $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide magnetic tape. This tape can then be played back immediately to give sound and vision on a T.V. set or Monitor.

Basically the equipment is easy to use but expensive to buy. However, like most resources video equipment probably exists in your community but is under used. If you want to use video without spending £2000 approach your local school, college, university, community project, educational resource centre or television dealer. The tapes are relatively in-expensive, a Sony $\frac{1}{2}$ " tape costs around £8.00. and gives you half an hour of coverage.

There are many ways of using video in the community and there are a number of excellent publications which give a comprehensive insight into its uses and demystify the processes involved. A list of these publications appear in the appendix.



Using the camera and hand held microphone to record the sound.

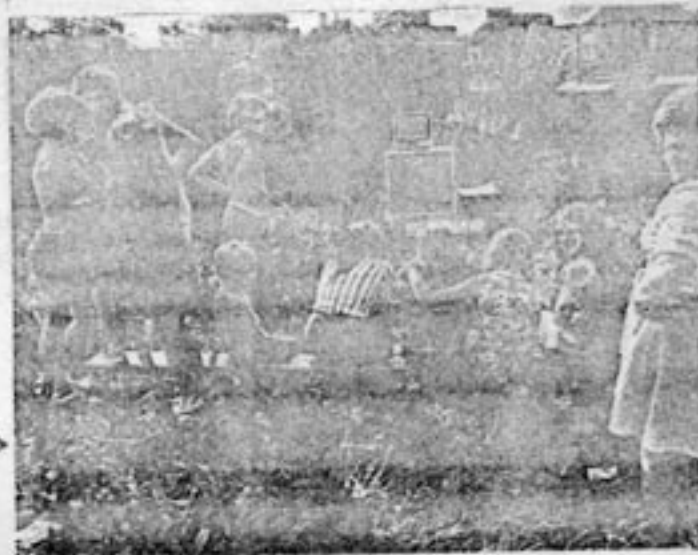
Video work with children as with adults can be exciting, stimulating, informative, entertaining and accessible.

The equipment can be used in a variety of ways, here are some examples: To record highlights of the day's activity for playback as a conclusion to the day. As a means of introducing the five-a-side football or netball tournament with details of the draw for the first round and comments by the players and officials. As a way of collecting children's views on play and play provision in their area for playback to council officers, at a public meeting or to other interested groups. As a part of a game or to stimulate an improvised drama so that 'performers' can see their own performance. As a means of communicating what is happening to passers-by. As a way of advertising the next session and what it will involve or perhaps what the children will need to bring with them.



Setting-up the equipment - Sony portapak, camera, tripod and monitor.

Watching a tape on the monitor.



You may find that a dedicated video group will emerge and they may wish to deal with one topic in depth.

This project may involve the making of a whole 'programme' or film about one topic or issue and will involve the use of some basic film techniques.

Like most kinds of film production the quality and direction of communication is made at the editing stage, thus you will need access to and knowledge of a video editor and the editing process.

Making a video programme.

John, Steve, Alan and Gary were interested in the video from the moment they first saw it used in Digby Park near to where they live. After experimenting with it for some time they decided that they would like to make a programme about the play facilities and hazards of playing in their area.

To do this they first of all decided what the content of the programme should be and from this they drew up a filming script to illustrate the content and the points they wished to make.

Content and filming script:

1. Title: "What a load of rubbish"
2. A general introduction to the area: distance shots of the streets, alleys, open spaces and the park. Play equipment and provision if any.
3. Interviews with children using the park to play in and their ideas about play.
4. Interviews with local adults to see how they perceived the play provision in the area.
5. The hazards of playing in the area; close up shots of the muddy park (poor drainage), side alleys littered with rubbish (hence the title) and generally hazardous open spaces and busy streets.

6. What could be done to improve the play facilities in the area.
7. Credits, who made the film and with whose equipment and help.
8. Who, where and when to show the finished programme.

Some of the techniques employed.

For the title they painted the words in bold letters on a brick wall and filmed this process with the camera held steady on a tripod.

The long shots of the streets and park also employed the use of a tripod and zoom lens. Enabling them to 'pan' slowly, recording without any camera shake and to zoom in on aspects they wished to emphasise.

The interviews involved hand held camera work, one person to carry the VTR deck and one person with the microphone posing the questions.

Filming the hazards involved both hand held and tripod supported camera work with one of the team providing a commentary as the filming took place.

By way of improvements in the area the team edited together the most sensible and feasible suggestions given during the interviewing.

Credits were contact lettered onto a piece of card and filmed with the camera on a tripod.

The programme took several weeks to film and edit and the final product was a very informative twenty minute programme which was shown to council officers and local residents.

The best way of learning how to use video is to contact someone in your community who has previous experience.

PAPER MACHÉ~CHICKEN WIRE~WOOD.

Great things both large and small can be made from these three basic materials with the addition of paint to give them some colour. Puppets, masks, hats, pots and even "Carnival Dragons".

The basis of any large paper maché structure is the frame. This can be constructed with stiff wire, wood or both depending on the size and the durability required. Around this basic frame is stretched the chicken wire which is either stapled or held in place with pliable wire. Having completed the frame paper maché or strips of paper laminated is applied.

Smaller objects like masks and puppets will not require a frame and can be modelled direct with chicken wire.



The Carnival Dragon was built outdoor as a part of a Summer Playscheme. The wooden spine and frame for the head were constructed by the youth and the everybody joined in to apply laminated paper onto the frame.

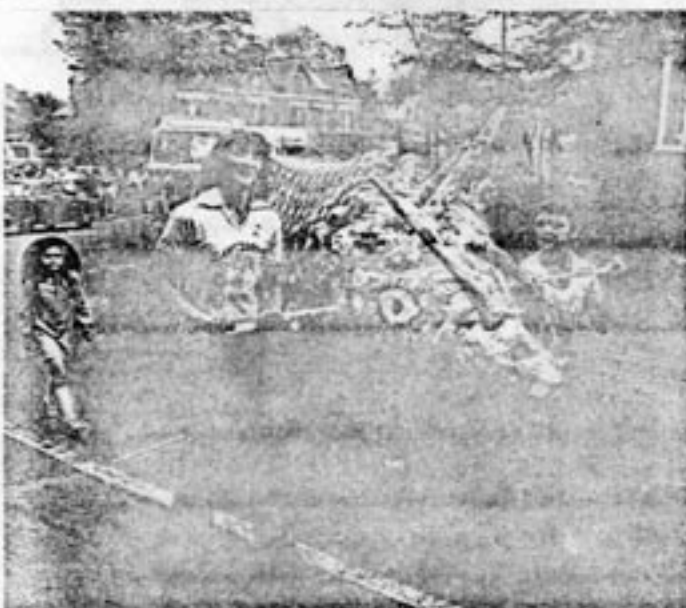
The body had a total length of twenty feet so it was necessary to build the spine in sections connected by hooks and eyes. Horns and tentacles modelled from chicken wire were attached to the main frame prior to laminating the paper and paste. A long piece of material was purchased for the body but had more time been available old bed sheets, decorated and sewn together would have been better.

Finally the head and tail were painted, if powder paints are used its wise to give the structure a coat of polyurathene to render it waterproof.

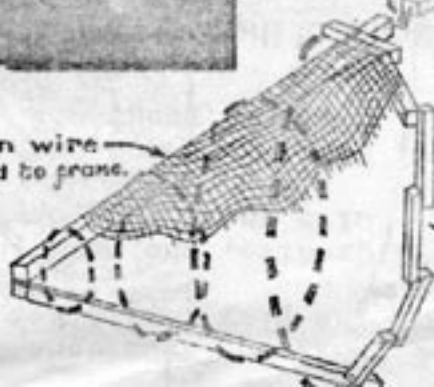
Care should taken when handling chicken wire and wall paper pastes without fungicide are preferred.

YOU WILL NEED

Chicken wire, stiff wire, pliable garden wire, wire cutters, hammers, saws, 'U' staples, paste, buckets, brushes and lots of newspaper.



chicken wire stapled to frame.



Hook and eye

Hand holds.

Spine constructed with lathing timber glued and nailed.

Jointed wood or thick wire frame.

Material stapled to spine.

PAPER MACHÉ ~ LAMINATED PAPER APPLICATION.

Paper maché pulp is made by tearing the newspaper into small pieces (size of a postage stamp) and stirring this into a prepared cold water paste. Wallpaper pastes are ideal but those which contain fungicide can harm the skin. The preparation of paste and paper is then left overnight to form a pulp. This mixture is ideal for modelling finger puppets, masks and making paper maché pottery.

Laminated paper application is used on large flat areas. The newspaper is best cut or torn into strips about one foot long and two to six inches in width. Paste should first be applied to the chicken wire and then on the paper strip. Place the strip on the mesh and cover with another layer of paste. Continue this process, slowly building up the thickness.

For fine detail laminated tissue paper is ideal but care should be taken not to over paste the paper.

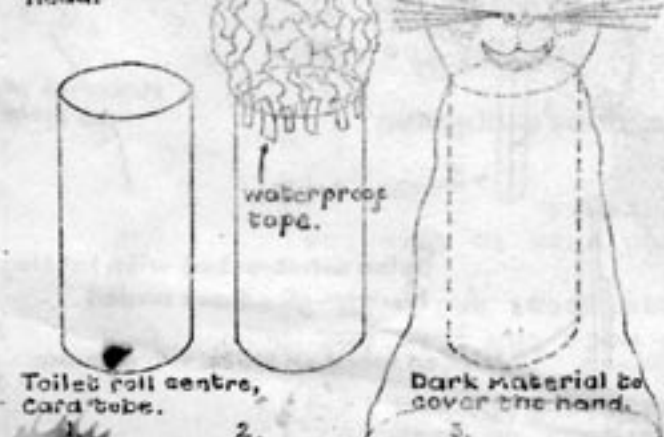
FINGER PUPPETS.

LAMINATED TISSUE PAPER



PAPER MACHÉ.

A crumpled newspaper ball, taped to the tube for base of the head.



There are many ways of making finger puppets which donot involve the use of paper maché or laminated tissue paper. However, puppets made in this way have the advantage of being quite strong. It is important to allow the models to dry thoroughly before decorating and painting with varnish or polyurathene. Useful materials for decoration are; string or raffia for hair, bristle or thin wire for whiskers, beads or buttons for eyes and thin card or paper for hats.

A suggested book list for puppet making is included in the bibliography.

MASKS

Masks can be made by modelling in plasticine and using the laminated tissue paper method. If you want an "all round" mask a chicken wire frame will be needed that will fit over the head of the person who is to wear it. Newspaper or tissue paper is then laminated on top of the wire. If you are drying the structures in an oven be careful not to set fire to them.



POTTERY

Simple pottery shapes can be modelled direct with paper mache, or paper laminations can be applied to existing ceramic shapes.

A coat of wax polish, brushed or rubbed onto the surface that you are working on will help to release the completed model.

Push or thumb pot.

