
Make a Paper Maché® Dragon Head with Katrina Wheeler

Chapter 1 - Make a Paper Maché® Dragon Head

Overview

(upbeat music) - This paper mache dragon head is perfect for imaginative play with your kids or anywhere you wanna add a sense of wonder and magic. Hi, I am Katrina Wheeler and I'm the creative director at Creativebug and a paper mache artist. Dragons can be found in almost every culture, and your dragon can take inspiration from anywhere. I love paper mache because it's such an accessible art form. I'm taking items that would end up in a landfill, packing paper, food packaging, paper towel rolls, and I'm turning them into something special. (upbeat music) There's no pressure to be perfect or be precious with these materials because they're essentially free. (upbeat music) In this class, I'll teach you how to use different materials to get different effects for your dragon face. I'll walk you through my favorite recipe for paper mache paste, how to build your facial structure of your dragon. We'll cover it in paper mache and I'll show you how to choose inspiration to paint your dragon head and add visual interest and texture with paint pens. Whether it's a Chinese dragon, a medieval dragon, or a dragon from "Lord of the Rings" or "Harry Potter," you can make your dragon as fantastical and creative and colorful as you want. (upbeat music)

Materials

- Here are the materials we're gonna be using to make our paper mache dragon heads. We'll start by mixing up our paper mache paste. I like to use one-third part Glue-All, one-third part wood glue, and one-third part water. You want it to be the consistency of a pancake batter. If it's too sticky and your fingers are sticking together, then you need to add a little more water. But when you dip your paper, if your paper is swelling and falling apart, you'll want to add a little more glue. We also have a stir stick to stir it with. I like to use sustainable materials in my construction, so I'm using some packing paper for the paper strips. I also have some newspaper and some food packaging that I found around my house, a cereal box and a granola box. I have toilet paper tubes and paper towel tubes. And for the base of our dragon head, we're gonna use a paper bag. We'll also need some masking tape, a hot glue gun with glue sticks, some scissors that are sharp enough to cut through cardboard, an X-ACTO blade, a bone folder, and a ruler. To personalize our dragon, we're gonna use acrylic paint in a variety of colors. We also have some paint pens and inexpensive craft brushes. I have a palette knife and a paint palette. And to protect our surface, I have freezer paper. This will keep the paper mache from sticking to your tabletop. Also, be sure to grab an apron because this is gonna get messy. And don't forget to download the class PDF where you can find the template for the dragon horns.

Mask construction: mouth and nose

- Let's begin our dragon head. We're gonna start with a paper grocery bag and we'll need to measure it and cut it down to fit. We're gonna measure down about 11 and a quarter inches from the bottom of the bag fold. We're gonna wanna cut this off. If your bag is too long, then it won't fit over your head. The paper mache will add quite a bit of weight to the bag, so if you have too much on there, it will be a little bit uncomfortable. Cut all the way across. Now we wanna find our eye holes for the dragon head. Find the center of your bag and make a mark down the middle. Now we'll want to measure about four inches down from the fold of the bag. We'll make a line three and a quarter

inches across from the center. These will be the center of your eye holes. I like to use a bottle of craft paint. It's about an inch, inch and a half. That's the perfect size for your eye holes, so I just center the bottle over the points that I made and trace it. We'll do the same for the other side. We'll need to cut out our eye holes. The easiest way to do that is starting with an X-Acto blade. Open your bag just a little bit and make small Xs in the circles. Be sure to hold the blade away from your body when you cut. I'm gonna use my scissors to cut out the rest of the circle. You don't need to worry about getting the circles perfect, because once we add some of the other elements and the paint, it will camouflage your cut marks. Before we go any further, let's try on our bag and make sure that we can see out of the eye holes. This feels good. I can see clearly. It's time to make the mouth of the dragon. To start, I take a cereal box. This one is just a regular sized cereal box. I like to use the nine to 10 ounce boxes. They seem to fit a paper bag perfectly. You don't want your box deconstructed just yet. You can keep it in one piece. I'm folding over the edges so I have this nice rectangular box shape. This will form one half of the jaw. I am gonna use some tape just to hold these pieces in place while I measure and mark it out. As you can see, the height of the box is just slightly under the width of the bag. This is what we want. It will hold the jaw shape on this bag once we paper mache it, and it's a good size that you don't have to cut down. We're gonna measure three inches deep on the box. Two of that will be for the mouth and one inch will fold over and use as a tab to attach to the paper bag. The next step is to cut into the box. Be careful with your cardboard scissors. You wanna make sure that you're not cutting through your hands and that they're strong enough to cut the cardboard all the way through. We only need this top piece and the side for our mouth so we can remove the rest of the box. I'm gonna cut little triangles into the one inch that I separated for a tab. This will allow me to fold it over and attach it to the paper bag when we're ready to add our mouth. Using my bone folder, I'm going to crease the fold. I'm gonna glue these back pieces together. This will form the back of the jaw. I fold them in a little more than a right angle because once you get that paper mache paper on there and all the paste, it's gonna weigh it down a little bit and might warp it and stretch it out. This will ensure that your mouth will not become too loose and hang off too much from your paper bag. I'm also going to attach these tabs right here that came loose when I cut into the box. Again, I'm folding them over just slightly more than a right angle because I want them to be a little bit tighter than they should be. Once that paper mache paste gets on there, it might loosen and expand just a bit. Now this is where we will start cutting out the teeth. I'm going to measure about a $\frac{1}{3}$ way down because that's where I want the teeth to start. You wanna make sure to leave a little bit of lip and gum in there and not just have all teeth on the front of your dragon. I like to mark out where I'm gonna cut my teeth. This helps me ensure that the teeth are evenly spaced and I get them all about the same size. I find my center on the box and just mark out the center. I wanna cut out six teeth in the front, two smaller teeth in the center on each side, and then a large canine. We're gonna make the canine slightly longer than the other four teeth. I'm gonna mark out where I want the bottom of the middle teeth to hit. I don't want them to go all the way to the bottom of the box, so I'm gonna make a line about $\frac{2}{3}$ down from the top. That looks pretty good to me. Now we're just gonna draw little Vs to mark out where we want our teeth, and since the canine needs to be longer, I'm gonna draw the line out all the way to the corner. The other half of the canine will finish on the side, and then I'll just draw a smaller back tooth. I'm gonna do the same thing for the other half. I'm not worried about getting every tooth the same size. This is part of what makes paper mache so unique and special. All the wonky little elements in it come together and make a dragon full of personality. Let's cut out our teeth. I am gonna cut off this back little corner so when I paper mache, it's a little bit easier to get around

every tooth. We'll want to make one more of these for the bottom jaw using the rest of your cereal packaging. I have one already made. To attach these to the paper bag, we're gonna line them up just above the opening on the bottom of your bag. Right about there. You wanna use quite a bit of glue to make sure that this mouthpiece sticks to the bag. I like to make sure I get the glue as close to the edges as possible. That ensures a solid fit. For the other piece, we want a little bit of a gap in between the top jaw and the bottom jaw. This'll look like the dragon's mouth is open and roaring. Now we have our dragon head mouth. Let's make our nose for our dragon. I'm gonna use a paper towel tube for this. We want our nose to be the same depth as the mouth, so that's about two inches. We're gonna take our ruler and mark off two inches. For the center of the nose. We'll combine two different pieces of tube together to make one large tube. I'm gonna use my ruler and mark two inches down. I'm also gonna leave a half inch so I can create tabs to attach the nose pieces to the paper bag, I have my two inch mark for my nose and then an extra half inch to fold over for the tab. I'm gonna do this all the way around the tube so I know exactly where I'm cutting. I am just gonna connect these dots. It gives me a little visual cue to make sure I'm putting my scissors in the right place. I'm gonna mark the other side as well, because I need two pieces to combine for this center part of the nose, so I'm gonna make sure that I'm cutting from a straight solid edge. Let's cut off our pieces. Because I'm combining these two pieces of paper towel roll together. I'm gonna cut a line through each and then tape 'em to make one giant roll. I'm using the straight edge on the paper towel roll to line up my pieces. I like to secure the inside of the roll as well. It keeps the piece from warping and bending as I'm working with it. Now dragons have this unusual nose shape. It's large and bulbous at the top, and it gets a little more narrow in the center, and then they have two large nostrils on either side. So let's start making the nostril and then I'll show you how to bend your nose into a dragon shape. I'm gonna use the rest of my paper towel tube and I'm going to cut two inches down and leave another half inch for the tab, just like we did to start the center of our dragon nose. Again, I'm marking it off and I'm gonna mark all the way around so I know where I need to cut. To make the tabs, I'm going to cut little triangles out of the extra half inch that I have here for a tab. This will allow me to fold it in on a rounded surface and attach it to the paper bag. We're gonna fold these tabs over. It easily folds around the circular tube and we have a nice flat surface here. We'll do the same for the center portion of our nose. Close off your nostril with a small piece of cardboard. I have a granola box here that is the perfect size for these smaller pieces. The easiest way to close off the nostril is just to glue the end and attach it to another piece of cardboard. I don't wanna have to worry about cutting out tabs and measuring circles, so this is the quickest way to form your nose. You wanna use a lot of glue and move really fast before it dries. Don't worry about glue drips. This will all be covered with paper mache later on. Press and hold firmly for about 30 seconds until your glue is dry. Cut out the excess cardboard keeping as close as possible to the paper towel tube. Smooth off any rough edges. I think that looks great. Make another nostril the same way. I have one already finished. Set your three pieces aside and we'll move on to the eyes.

Mask construction: eyes and horn

- For the eyes, you'll need two toilet paper tubes. Unroll your toilet paper tube gently so the paper rips as little as possible. Open it up and lay it flat. Using my ruler, I'm drawing a straight line from one point to the other. We'll use half of this to form the eye. I'm going to round off the top because I don't want any points on my eyelid. Cut about half an inch below your line. You'll fold those into tabs to attach the eyelid to your structure. Cut the tabs, make little Vs with your scissors. I have a

little loose paper here, so I'm just gonna tear that off, because I want a nice, clean line on the edge of my dragon's eye. Glue these two points together, you wanna keep a round, flat edge. As we did with the nostrils, we will fold over the tabs so we have a flat surface to glue our eyelids onto the dragon. Repeat the process to make two eyes. I have an extra one already made. I know I want my eyelids centered with the eye. My nose will sit below that, but on top of the mouth. If I squeeze in the nostril pieces, I can begin to form the center of the nose. That looks like it would be placed in the right position. Because we still need to cut out a hole for our nose to fit, I'm gonna trace the inside of the center nose piece so I know exactly where to cut. I'm just making a loose line inside just to give me an idea of where it would be safe to cut through with scissors. This cutout does not have to look good. It will be covered up by the centerpiece of the nose. This is just to make sure that you have enough room to comfortably wear your mask. Cap off the center nose piece, just like you did with the nostrils, and then glue it down over the hole. Repeat for the nostrils. Make sure the nostrils are snug, they're touching the mouth, and they're also touching the center nose piece. You can add a little glue just to secure that nose, and make sure it's not wiggling away from the mouth and the other parts. After adding my nose, I'm realizing that some of the tabs are going over my eye holes, so I'm just gonna cut these back a little bit. As you're working on these masks, it's okay to adjust some of the elements to fit. If you find that you had the same problem with your nose once you put your mask on, you can also cut those tabs back. I want my dragon to look a little bit fierce, so I'm making sure that the high point of the eye piece is at the corner, so it gives them a furrowed brow. That looks like a pretty fierce dragon face to me. I'm gonna attach the horns. I've already cut these out using the template provided in the class PDF. I am going to mark where the top of the bag would meet the horns, so I know when I glue how to line them up. I'm using my finger that I have lined up with a mark I made so I know exactly where to apply glue to my horn. If you want a different dragon, you can draw different horns on it, you can leave the horns off, it's entirely up to you. Don't worry about the glue spilling over. This will all be covered in paper mache, so you won't see any of those boobos or weird marks. I have a full spread of newspaper here, and I'm going to loosely roll it up and use that to form around the edge of the face. Secure any loose spots with a little bit of masking tape. I want to find my center on this piece of rolled up newspaper, so I'm gonna fold it in half and then use that centerpiece to start in the middle between the eyes to wrap around the dragon face. Use hot glue to secure the newspaper to the paper bag. I like to shape it as I'm gluing it down because that way, it helps get the newspaper into the exact place I want it, and it's easier to maneuver. Oh, this is gonna be a cute dragon. I have my face assembled. I'm ready to start paper mache-ing.

Paper mache

- This is where the magic of creating our dragon mask happens. With the paper mache that we place, we can create as much texture and fun as we want. We can add personality by bending and moving the paper over every element. We can make it as messy as we want or as clean as we want. Every piece will turn out 100% unique, depending on where you lay your paper strips. I've ripped my paper into shreds - different sizes. I have some wider, long strips that I'm gonna use on the mouth, I have thin, narrow strips that I'll use over the eye parts, and I have smaller strips for the nose and the rest of the face. I like to start with the hardest part first. That way, I have more of the dragon to grab onto while I'm working on the difficult corners. For the mouth, I'm gonna show you a quick, easy way to cover these teeth without having to wrap paper around every tooth. You wanna use your wider, longer strips. These are about two inches wide and about seven or eight inches long. I'm

going to dip it into my paper mache paste and use my fingers as a squeegee to wipe off all the excess. You don't want your strips too wet, or they will just fall right off of your mask structure. Because I'm doing the hard part first, I'm gonna start with the inside of the mouth. I wanna take my thick strip of paper and press it into the back of the teeth. I start at the top because I would need to lay my hands over the bottom part of the jaw, and I would ruin any paper mache I already had on there. Make sure your paper is pressed firmly into the back of the teeth. Continue the process all the way around the inside of the mouth. This is the part where you get glue everywhere. Your hands are covered in the paste. Things start sticking to you, but that is the magic of paper mache. Again, I'm sandwiching this strip of paper firmly into the back of my teeth. I'm gonna continue wrapping it on the inside of the mouth. Nobody's gonna see the inside of the mouth, I just want it covered. Going to get the last remaining side of the dragon mouth. These can be a little tricky. Sometimes your paper will bunch up, and wrinkle, and bend, and that is okay. This is where the personality comes out. Maybe he's a dragon with a small mouth. Maybe he doesn't need this much space on the inside. I am going to use one of these smaller, wide strips to get some of these canine teeth that the paper didn't quite reach the end of. I have quite a bit of overhang here on the paper, and that's okay. We're gonna trim off all of this later when it dries, and I'll show you how to cover the front. Before I do the front of the teeth, I'm just gonna cover up the inside of the top of this mouth. Again, I'm not worried about getting nice, smooth strips of paper in there. I just want it covered so the cardboard is protected. My hands are getting a little bit covered in glue, so I'm just wiping off the edges on the bowl. You don't want too much glue on your hands because it will sit right on top of this cardboard and turn it soggy. I'm gonna use some of these smaller strips just to fill in some of the gaps. And I have my inside covered. As you can see, some of these pieces are wrinkly. They're popping up a little bit. That's fine. Once your dragon mask is on, you won't see it. I'm going to use the same technique to sandwich the front of the teeth. I'm gonna take my wide strips and just lay 'em over the top. I'm pressing these two pieces together, sandwiching the cardboard mouth, and pressing in so I can see the outline of these teeth. Once this dries, I can go back and cut through it later. I wanna make sure it's on there firm, and it doesn't fall off, and nothing is loose. These larger strips of paper can get a bit messy. I think that's why most people prefer to use smaller strips. They also wrinkle a bit more, but when you're working with a difficult surface like this, they come in handy to cover the whole thing in one swoop. To cover the top of the mouth, I'm gonna use smaller strips. One trick with the dragon is the face is one piece, so don't worry about covering multiple parts with the same strip of paper. I'm gonna let this paper strip slide from the mouth over to the nose. You get this rough, wrinkly texture that's perfect for dragon skin. This is the fun part of paper mache. You never know what you're gonna get. You never know how the paper is gonna fold around each corner. Sometimes I'll paper mache a generic sculpture, and it turns and transforms into something amazing while I'm working on it, just depending on where the paper is laying and how it's wrinkling. I am getting some excess glue on here, and I don't want that because it will make my bag a little bit soggy. Use my fingers to wipe it away. This process is very messy, which can be fun, but you do need to make sure that your cardboard pieces do not get too messy. I've inserted freezer paper in my bag to make sure it doesn't stick together. When your paper macheing, think of the dragon face as one whole unit to cover. Don't just cover the nose and just cover the mouth. You wanna make sure all your pieces are blended together. I am gonna run this piece right across the top of the mouth and over into the nose. I'm getting these beautiful little wrinkles and folds here that will just add to the character of the dragon. I am gonna use one large piece to cover the nose, and I'm gonna allow the paper to sink into some of these little crevices. They'll add to the dragon shape of the

nose. These little folds will look like dragon skin and wrinkles. Now a little trick, if you get to a place like this where you cannot fold your paper over, just use your fingers and make a little tear. Let the paper guide you where it wants to go. I'm using long, thin strips to cover the eyes. I like using newspaper because of the wrinkles and folds. Give it a really unique texture. You can create almost the appearance of fluff or fur using rolled-up newspaper. I'm letting these strips drape over these shapes that I've built. I want them to be nice and loose. They're almost creating a new shape itself. I want these to look as one cohesive unit, and adding loose strips of paper will ensure that. This part of the process of paper macheing is the most fun because I really don't know what's gonna happen. Sometimes these paper pieces might look crisp and clean, other times they look loose and flowy. They add wrinkles, and they add character. I'm gonna fill in some of the gaps with smaller pieces. Don't worry about covering up part of your eye holes. We'll go through and trim those edges later. I like to use newspaper to build the structure of an object, but I don't like covering it with newspaper. I like to use brown packing paper because it provides a neutral surface to work on. When you have black and white newspaper, it's a little hard to cover it with paint and make sure that you're not picking up that black and white contrast. You may need several coats of paint to cover up the text in a newspaper. If you have brown packing paper, it's a neutral surface, and you'll get a solid color every time. For the horns, I'm gonna sandwich it just as I did for the teeth. Using my long, thick strips, I'm gonna lay it underneath and on top of each horn. I'm not worried about it overlapping because I will trim it down later. I'm letting my paper mache strips overlap slightly. I don't want them to overlap too much because then it will become too thick and start to tear away from each other. You give it a little overlap, they'll get a nice, strong hold. I'm adding strips to the back of the horn directly onto the top of the bag. This will help hold it in place. If I press firmly around the edge of the horn, then I know exactly where I'm going to need to trim back later. Continue paper macheing every last square inch of your dragon's face. When that's done, I like to use a box to stand my bag up in to dry. When the face is dry, you can continue to paper mache one coat over the sides and the back of the dragon. When it's all dry, it should look something like this.

Trim and paint

- I've already trimmed away the teeth and one of the horns. I'm gonna show you how I'll trim the other horn and the eyes. For the horn, I'm just using my scissors and I'm gonna cut as close as possible to the outline of the horn. I don't wanna cut into the cardboard because I still want this paper mache protective covering on it. I'm gonna get the big chunks off with my scissor, and if I need, I can take my X-Acto blade in here and get a little finer cut. That looks like a pretty clean cut to me. As you can see, when we sandwich the paper mache together, it forms a seal around the edge of the cardboard horn. For the eyes, I'm gonna cut it out from the inside of my dragon head. It makes it easier to see where my cardboard circle was already cut out. You can see clearly the outline of the eye circles, so carefully using my X-Acto blade pointed away from my body, I'm going to slice out the excess paper mache paper. Since it's just one layer of paper mache, it should cut fairly easy. I'm turning my mask over just to clean up any rough circles. I'm not too concerned about this being a perfect circle. Once we have paint applied, it's not really gonna be visible. We have our mask all trimmed up, so it's time to move on to painting. I have some inspiration photos here of different dragons. A couple of them are from kids' books. These are from an artist named Emily Winfield Martin, who paints these fantastical drawings of dragons. We have some medieval dragons here, Chinese dragons. There's a beautiful blue dragon. I encourage you to go to your local library or use your favorite "Harry Potter" reference to color your own dragon. I'm really drawn to the

contrasting colors in some of these children's illustrations. I like the bright pink and the bright blue, so I think I'll start with that. I've poured out some colors that I think I wanna use. As you can see, they're slightly different. I don't want purple on my dragon, so I've opted to swap in a bright blue. I've also added red, and instead of a bright yellow I've opted to use a yellow ochre instead. I know I want pink, so I'm gonna start with that on the majority of the dragon face. I'm just adding a little bit of paint right now just to make sure that my color swatch looks good before I apply it to everything. I think I like this pink. It feels very playful and magical to me. I'm gonna figure out what color to use for my horns. I know I don't wanna use purple, so I think I'm gonna try the blue. I like the contrast between the bright primary blue and the pale pink. This feels very happy and childlike to me, which is the look that I'm after. I add blue on the horns, and I want a consistent look across the dragon's face, so I'm gonna incorporate some blue on the eyes as well. I like how I have a bright color that's gonna frame these eyes and really make them pop. As I'm painting, I'm not worried about making straight lines. You're painting over a textured, bumpy surface, and there is no way to get perfection in this. Now that I'm adding my blue, I can see that I'm gonna want something to contrast the inside, so I think the yellow ochre would be perfect for the eyeballs. I'm going a little heavy with the paint. It helps the paint fill in all the crevices and gaps that the paper strips create. Yeah, I like the pop that I'm getting from the blue and the yellow ochre. I like the way the red on the eyebrows contrasts the pale pink. Usually pink and red aren't always seen together, but sometimes it makes the red just appear a little bit brighter. These large craft brushes are my favorite to paint with. They're so inexpensive and versatile, and they can really reach inside all these little crevices and folds of the paper. Sometimes you have to imagine where the eyebrows might end. The folds of the paper might be uneven on one side to the other, so I like to use paint to form the outline of some of these structures on the face. I'm painting a little bit over the edge of the eyebrows, but visually, when all the paint is applied and it dries, it'll look great. I want to add white in this empty space on the eyes just to make the colors pop a little more, but I don't like to use a pure white. Instead, I use unbleached titanium. It tends to have a more vintage look to it, and it also works well and not so contrasty with the rest of the colors. I'm not gonna go all the way up to the edges because my paint is still wet. I'm still mapping out my colors and making sure everything works before I paint the other side. I'm also gonna use the unbleached titanium on the teeth as well. To get the inside of the mouth, I'm just gonna throw the color on there. I'm not concerned about straight lines. Nobody is going to see the roof of your dragon's mouth, but at an angle you might get a little glimpse of it. I think I need more yellow in this. I like the pop of yellow in the eyes, but I feel like it needs to draw from somewhere else on the face, so I'm gonna add a yellow nose. I want a very colorful dragon, just like my inspiration photo. I'm not mimicking the colors exactly. I'm more using the idea of the bright contrasting colors as my inspiration. And just as you should with your inspiration, pull the parts that you like and leave the ones that you don't. I'm gonna bring more of the red in to frame out the mouth. Part of the fun of painting paper mache is that you're never going to get perfection. You're never gonna get a straight line, so I don't even need to try. I feel like it takes away a lot of the pressure from making something look perfect. I like how these wobbly lines end up. It almost has a Wayne White-ish quality to it. If you're not familiar with him, he was the set designer for "Pee Wee's Playhouse," and he makes these fantastical giant puppets and structures out of various materials, and they're never refined or polished. They're thrown together in an almost comical, fun way. I'm very happy with the color palette that I'm using on my dragon, so I'm gonna continue painting the rest of my dragon face. I'm also gonna paint the back and the sides of the dragon. And you can add whatever elements you want. You can paint in scales or flames or flippers. Use your inspiration to

personalize your dragon head. I finished painting my dragon, and I'm very happy with how it turned out. I love this cute little mouth. I've added flames on the side, scales on the side and the back. I brought the pink color from the face around over the sides and top. I think I need to add a little more detail to the top of the head and the horns. I'm going to use my Posca paint pens. I really like these because they blend very well with acrylic paint. They're easy to draw over a textured paper mache surface. It's a lot easier than paint and a brush. I'm just gonna add some dots on the top of this head, just to give it the illusion of a different type of texture than I have from the scales on the back and the lines that I've drawn over the eyebrows. These paint pens can be unpredictable on the surface, and that's what I like about them. You get these little splatters, you get these weird squiggles, and that's okay. It's just going to add to the illusion of a dragon. I don't want my circles to be too uniform. I don't want it to look like a pattern, so I'm placing them around so it's a little more unpredictable. You can try using different widths of paint pens. I'm using a chiseled tip right now. This one is very wide. It does not make fine lines unless you turn it over, and you might be able to get some on the side of the pen. But try using different sizes of pens to get different effects. I think that's looking great. Add a little more to the sides just to give it some visual interest. I like the handcrafted look of paper mache, and with the paint pens on it, just a little unexpected and unpredictable, adds some nice texture. I think that looks great. I'm gonna add just a little bit of texture to the nose. Dragons have these wrinkly noses, and I'm gonna use paint pens to add some lines to my nose and give it the illusion of a wrinkle. The nice thing about these chisel markers is you can adjust your line weight with them. You can get a thick line or a thin line. Sometimes I like to start with a thinner line, and then I can fill it in as I go to make sure that's really where I want that line placed. I'm gonna shape out this nose a little bit with my paint pen also, just tracing the original cardboard pieces that we used to build the structure of the nose, letting that guide where my pen is gonna go. I think that looks pretty good. I'm gonna add some stripes to my horns, and then I think my dragon will be complete. The fun thing about these dragons is you can add whatever marks you want. Use your paint pens to add dots and scales and stripes and texture. Just have fun with it. Let's see, I think my dragon looks cute. It's very colorful, very happy. Again, he doesn't look very much like my inspiration photo, but the general concept of the bright contrasting colors, lots of pink, it's there, and I can clearly see how I was influenced by this children's drawing. Only one final step.