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Learning and Participation Resource Pack

The Phantom of the Opera - Masks

Suitable for Primary



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Overview

The Phantom of the Opera is one of Andrew Lloyd Webber's most iconic musicals and it is the second longest running musical on the West End, having played there for over 30 years.

As you may know, the Phantom is a mysterious, musical genius who lives beneath the Paris Opera House and wears a plain white mask throughout the show to hide his face from the world.

One of the most extravagant scenes in Phantom of the Opera is the opening of Act Two. The whole company come together to take part in a masquerade ball, with colourful costumes and masks of all different shapes and sizes. The party is to celebrate the re-opening of the theatre and that the Phantom has disappeared. However, no one has ever really seen the Phantom or knows what he looks like, apart from Christine, so this party allows the Phantom to fully disguise himself.

This pack is designed for you to be able to design and create your very own mask, with a variety of resources and ideas to enable you to get ready for the ball! Dependant on age, some tasks may require the aid of an adult.

Lesson Ideas

Warm up/icebreakers

- 1) Firstly, before getting started, it is a good idea to watch a clip of Masquerade from The Phantom of the Opera (*Resource 1*). A link to this can be found in the resources section of this pack. This clip is taken from the 2004 movie. Whilst you are watching, see if you can count how many different masks you can spot.

How many did you spot? Did you lose count? There are so many different varieties of masks which makes the scene even more spectacular.

- 2) Now, this time watch it again, but see if there is a mask that stands out for you. Why have you chosen this particular mask? What do you like about this



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mask? Once you have made your choice, make a note of the style and the colours as this could contribute to your own design later.

Task ideas/starting points

Making a mask

Step 1: Choose your mask from the selection of mask templates within this pack.

Step 2: The fun part, designing your mask! Depending on which mask you have chosen, there are a variety of ways in which you can do this. If you have chosen the dot to dot or colour by numbers template ([Resources 2 and 3](#)) then you will need to follow the guidelines on the sheet. If you have chosen a blank template, ([Resources 4, 5 and 6](#)) then you can design and colour your mask however you wish, just be creative. Use some of the ideas you made a note of from your warm up activity. Feel free to add extra elements onto the mask also.

Step 3: Carefully cut out around the mask, and don't forget the eye holes. Be careful and if you need help with this step, then ask an adult to cut it out for you.

Step 4: We now need to create the handle so that you hold your mask to your face. Ideally, short wooden dowel rods would be perfect for this, however if you cannot access these, then you could use straws or wooden lolly sticks. The idea is that you will need to attach the handle, either on the left or right hand side of the mask, (*depending on which hand you use*) with some tape or glue.

Step 5: Now hold your mask up to your face, make sure you can see through it and get ready to show off your creation.

Task developments

There are several different ways that you could develop this task, depending on your skill level and creativity.

You could:



- Print out one of the blank mask templates and use different materials to design with, for example: paints, crafts such as feathers/beads or glitter (if resources allow) to actually stick on, bringing the mask to life and making it more 3D.
- Draw your own mask from scratch.
- Cut out a template on cardboard, scrunch up bits of old newspaper and attach it to the mask, followed by papier-mâché to really create a 3D mask, adding depth and finer detail.
- Alternatively, you can also google *Masquerade Mask Templates* for more ideas.

Further developments

Now you have created your mask, why don't you try and create a dance routine to Masquerade, ready to share back with your friends, teachers and/or family. Watch the video back to get some ideas!

You could even try and learn the words to Masquerade to sing along to whilst you are performing. The lyrics can be found in the resources section of this pack, ([Resource 7](#)).

Cool down ideas

Get ready for the Masquerade ball! If you have chosen to do some of the task developments, then now is your time to shine and put on your own performance to Masquerade. Set the stage, whether it be in the school hall, classroom or if you are at home, then the living room or garden. Gather your audience and settle them down ready for your performance.

Alternatively, if you have designed a variety of different masks, you could create a fashion show and set up a catwalk where you are able to show off your many designs. Maybe you could even get the audience to vote on their favourite design?

Outcome

PHAN-tastic! You have successfully been able to create a Masquerade mask, inspired by the The Phantom of the Opera.

You have also been able to learn the lyrics to the song so you can sing along next time you see the show or hear it played. You have also created a choreographed routine for the song so that you can show off all your designs. Well done!

Resources and useful links

Resource 1: *Masquerade from The Phantom of the Opera:*

<https://youtu.be/cTfQG8-Yc6w>

Resources 2-7 below

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If you require further information contact

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Resource 2 : Dot to Dot

Follow the numbers in order to draw your mask.



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Resource 3 : Colour by Numbers

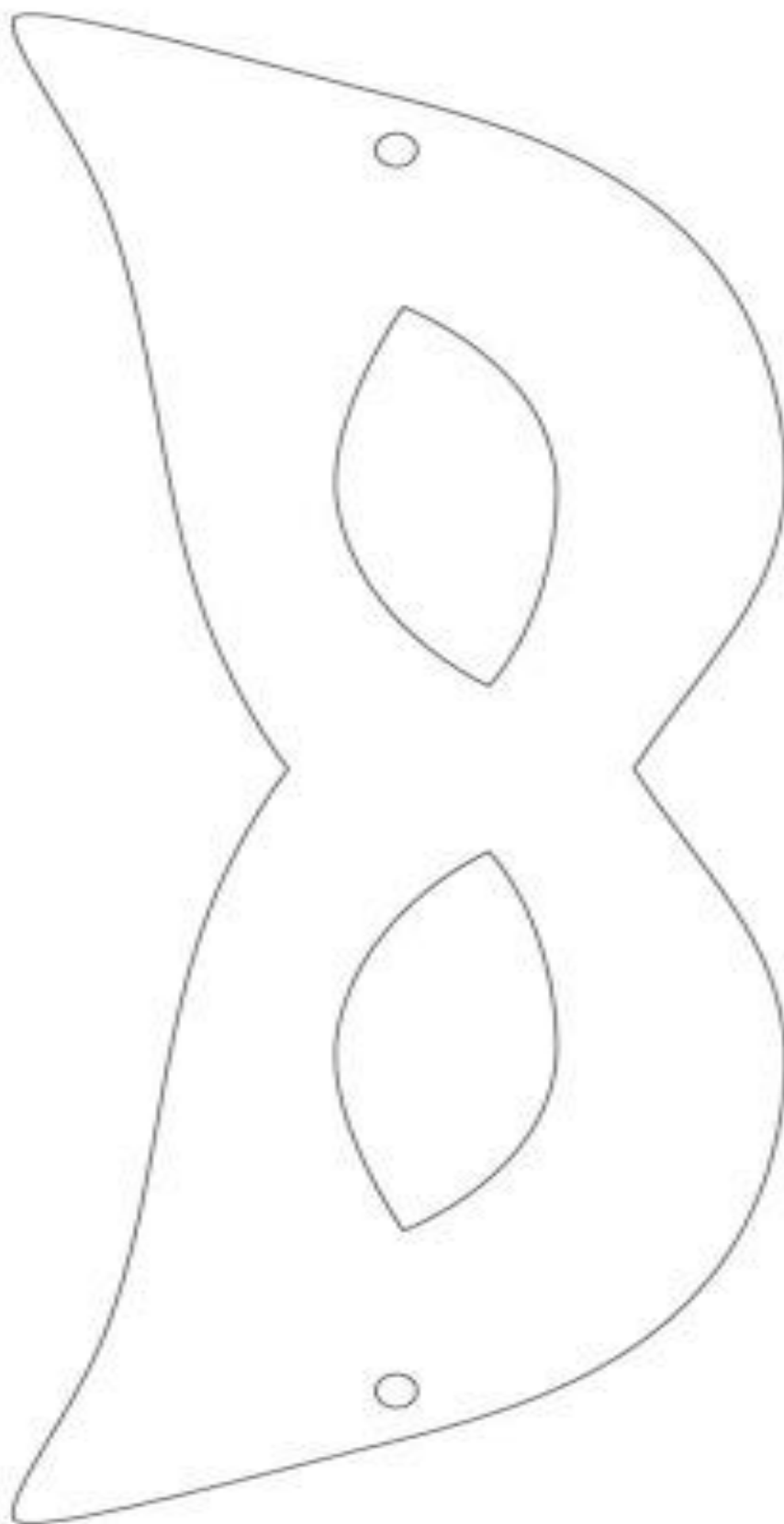
Look at the numbers on the mask and see which colour each number matches up to.



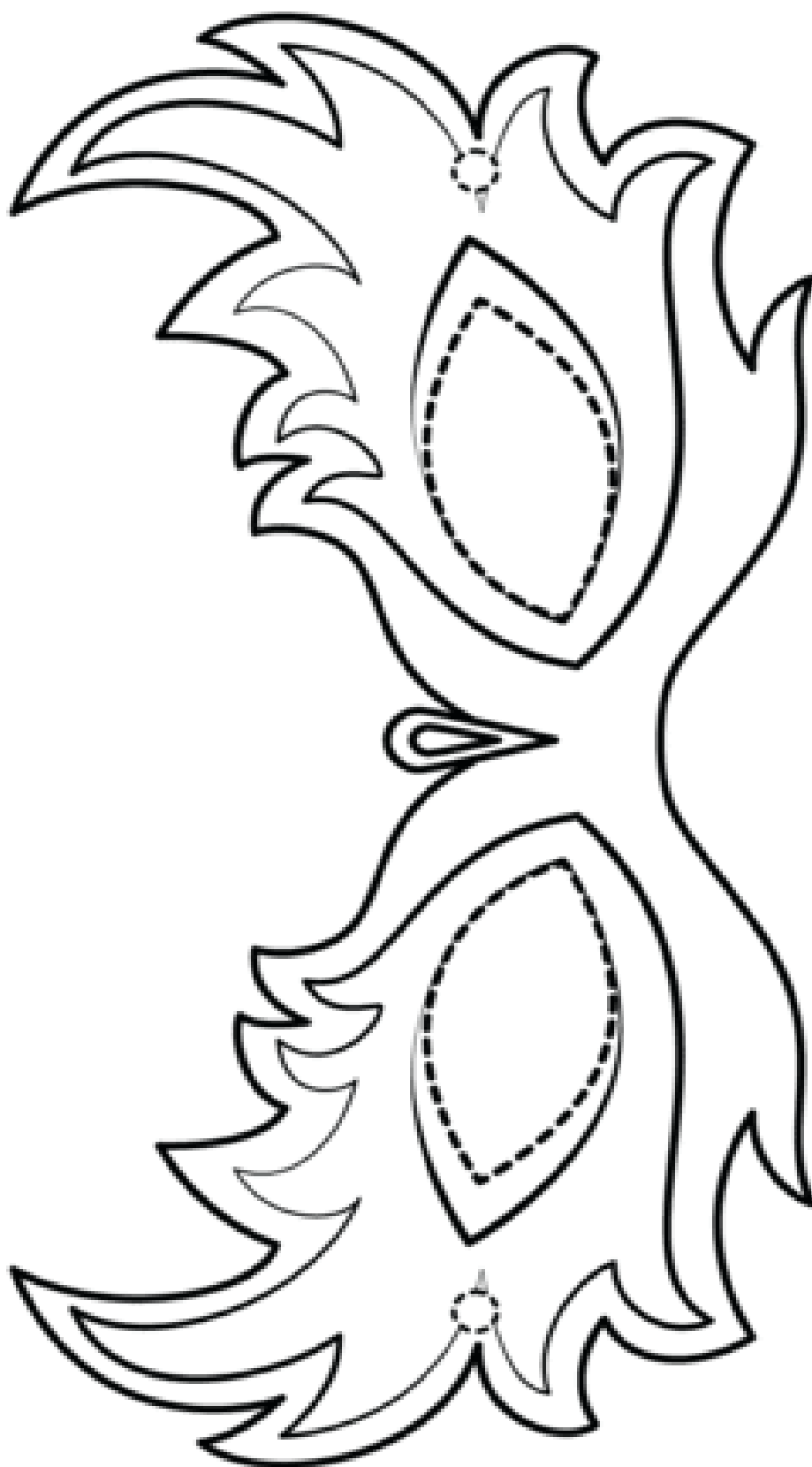
- 1. Red
- 2. Yellow
- 3. Green
- 4. Purple
- 5. Blue
- 6. Pink
- 7. Orange



Resource 4: Blank Template



Resource 5 : Blank Template



Resource 6 : Blank Template



Resource 7 : Lyrics

Masquerade from The Phantom of the Opera

Masquerade! Paper faces on parade.
Masquerade! Hide your face so the world will never find you.
Masquerade! Every face a different shade.
Masquerade! Look around, there's another mask behind you.

Flash of mauve, splash of puce,
Fool and king, ghoul and goose.
Green and black, queen and priest,
Trace of rouge, face of beast, faces,

Take your turn, take a ride,
On the merry-go-round, in an inhuman race.
Eye of gold, true is false,
Who is who?

Curl of lip, swirl of gown,
Ace of hearts, face of clown, faces,
Drink it in, drink it up till you've drowned
In the light, in the sound but who can name the face?

Masquerade! Grinning yellows, spinning reds.
Masquerade! Take your fill, let the spectacle astound you.
Masquerade! Burning glances, turning heads.
Masquerade! Stop and stare at the sea of smiles around you.

Masquerade! Seething shadows breathing lies.
Masquerade! You can fool any friend who ever knew you.
Masquerade! Leering satyrs, peering eyes.
Masquerade! Run and hide, but a face will still pursue you.



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