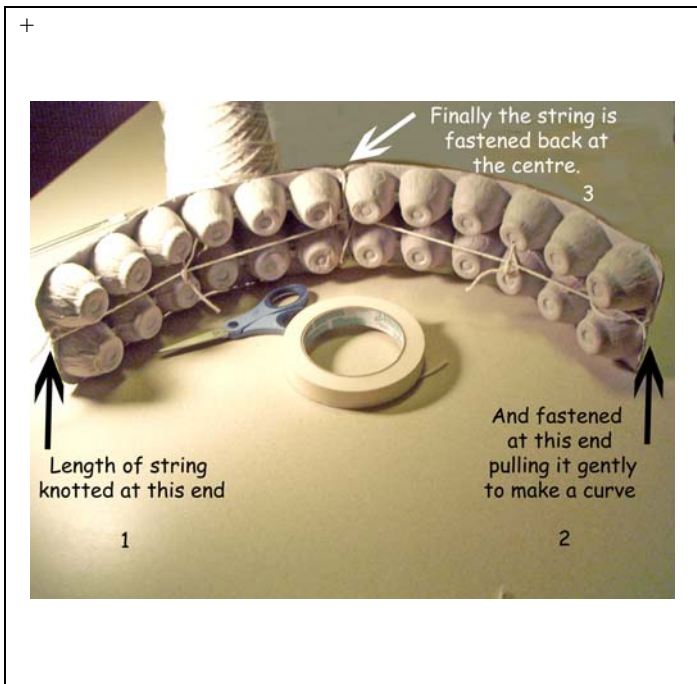


# How to make Dragons

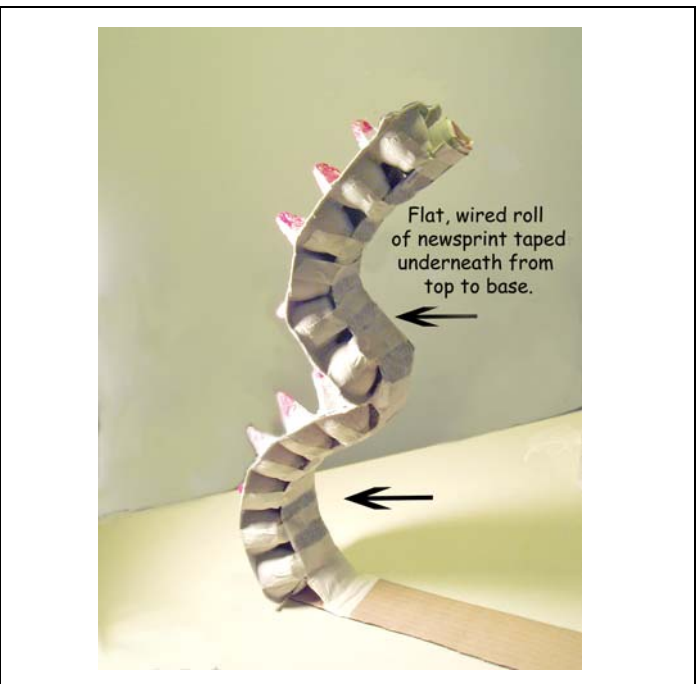
## Materials

- Newspapers (about 3)
- Egg Boxes (3 boxes with 12 holes each)
- Tissue paper, white and coloured
- Masking tape, (2 rolls)
- Stem wire and wire cutters
- PVA Glue – Elmer’s Glue All or similar plus glue brush
- Hot glue gun
- White and coloured paints plus paintbrushes
- Thick cardboard (for base)
- Sheet of white card
- String (about 36 inches)
- Craft scissors and ruler
- Felt tip pen
- Paper butterfly and feather (optional)





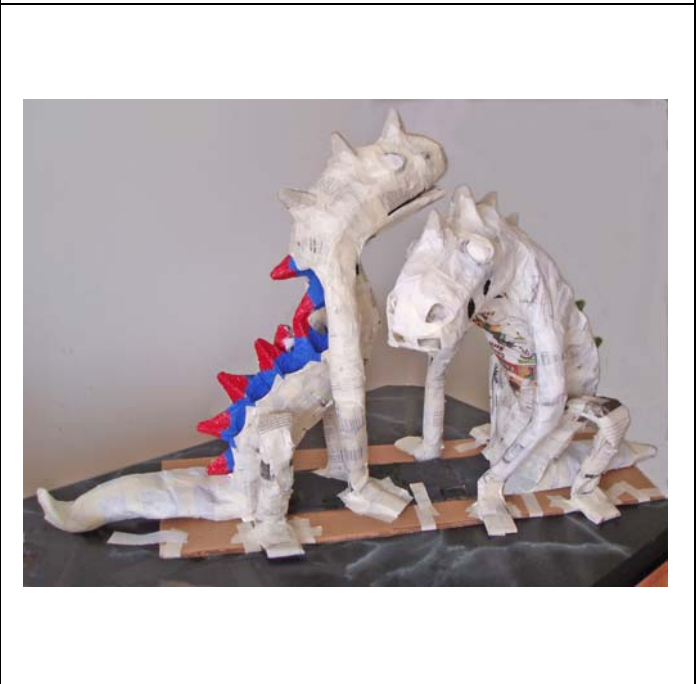
**1.** For the shape of the first dragon, tape two egg box bases together lengthwise. Tie string from one end to the other, gently pulling the string so that the egg boxes form a curve like a slight bow. Tie the string in at the centre as shown to increase the curve, then tape a long, flat roll of newspaper (with wire inserted) along this side to strengthen it.



**2.** To make the second dragon a different shape, two 'curves' are made using two lengths of egg boxes. Bend each section of egg box separately using string as described in No.1. The two sections are then joined together with masking tape, making the shape as above. Tape a long flat, wired roll of newspaper underneath (as shown above) for strength, and finally tape the 'dragons' to a cardboard base.



**3.** For the two long front legs of each dragon, make four tight rolls of newspaper, fastening each roll with tape, (thread stem wire inside each roll for extra support and to bend slightly at the 'elbows'). Tape each roll to where the 'shoulders' of the dragons will be, then tape the ends of rolls to the cardboard base, with a flat foot shape. Make back legs in a similar way and fasten to the body near the tail.



**4.** When the dragons feel quite firm, add a couple of extra rolls of paper, taping them lengthwise, to the legs, and bulk out the chest and stomach area by taping on extra fat rolls of paper. To make the dragon's tail, a flat, wide roll of paper is taped to the lower back of each dragon, and formed into a point at the tip. The heads are made from 'parcels' of paper, and taped firmly to the bodies.





5. The parcel of crumpled paper for the head shape, as shown above, is an extension beyond the actual egg box, and once firmly attached to the body at the angle you want, individual 'pointy' pieces (from a spare egg box), can be fastened to the top of the head separately with masking tape. Two holes are left in the main head shape (nostrils) and the whole dragon is covered with glued strips of white tissue.



6. Four shallow cup shapes cut from a spare egg box make the eye sockets, which are glued at each side of the head. A small round paper ball is glued in the centre of each socket. To make the lower 'jaw', a flattened parcel of paper, the same size as the base of the head, is attached with tape beneath the head, as shown above, until it feels secure and does not hang down.



7. The picture above shows the patterning on the back of the dragon. Notice the middle section of the back, the 'cups' of the egg boxes have been filled with small 'parcels' of plain paper, which have been painted and then glued in place. Notice also the little 'flick' of the tail, a small length of stem wire was inserted here.



8. Before painting the eyeballs, they were pencilled in first, making sure the paper butterfly would be in the correct place when finally glued on top. After all, the dragon is supposed to be looking at the butterfly!



**9.** On the back of the second dragon, the small 'parcels' which have been glued into the egg box holes, are green instead of red, so have fun with your colours! Also teeth, made from squares of white card, have been glued inside the rim of the mouth, and some long pointed teeth extend below the lower jaw!



**10.** The eye socket, now painted, looks part of the head, not something just stuck on, and gluing a strip of tissue across the top of the socket made a small eyelid. A dab of white paint to one side of the black eyeball adds life!

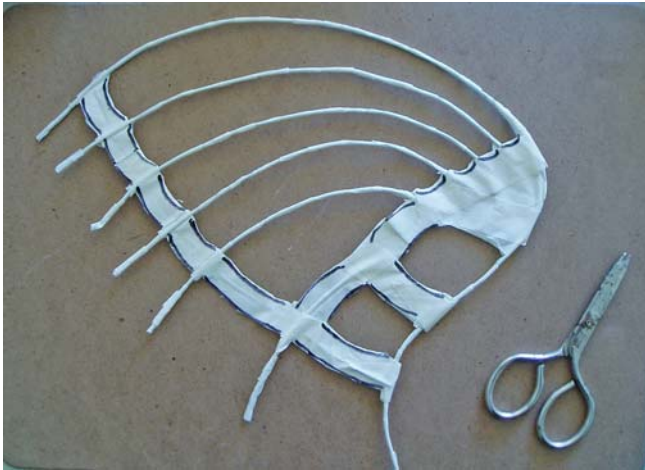


**11.** The patterning is almost finished, the coloured bands have been outlined in black to give a bolder and better effect and the dragons now have their tummies and back legs painted.



**12.** Close up of the dragon's tail.





**13.** A decision had to be made, what size and what shape did the dragon's wings need to be? A sketch was drawn, and then using masking tape and wire a wing was made of an appropriate size. The wires were wrapped with masking tape and then bent and trimmed to the required shape and length. This framework was held firmly together with a double layer of tape.



**14.** Glued white tissue paper was carefully laid over one side of the wing and wrapped around the edges for a neat finish. When completely dry another layer of white tissue was glued on the other surface of the wing, and neatly folded over at the edges again, and left to completely dry again. The wing was now carefully bent into a slight curve.



**15.** When the white tissue was dry, a final covering of dark coloured tissue was glued on the outer side of the wing, and again left to dry. A final covering of coloured tissue was glued to the inside of the wing.



**16.** The edges and ribs of the wings were outlined in black. Then the wings were carefully hot glued, using a couple of blobs, near the top of the long front legs where the shoulders might be.



**17.** To finish the feet, three claws for each foot were made by wrapping masking tape around small lengths of wire.



**18.** Then the claws were fixed to the foot base with masking tape and bent downwards slightly. They were then trimmed to length and painted the same colour as the legs.



**19.** Close up of dragons eye, notice the bold black outlines around the coloured patterning.



**20.** The tongue was made by folding a length of stem wire into a U shape, and covered with glued kitchen roll on both sides. Two small V shaped pieces of card, were glued to the end of the tongue and also covered with kitchen roll. Then the whole tongue was painted red, left to dry, then bent into shape and glued into the dragon's mouth.