

# Props Activities

These are some suggested activities that you can do with your classroom that build on the Prop Artisan workshop. Feel free to do these activities or be inspired by them to do something else. Just a few ideas that could be fun, and build off of what you may already be working on!

1. Build or source a prop/object that is described in a play or book you're reading in class. Think about how a performer would use the object. Would it be an appropriate size, weight, colours, functionality, etc?
2. Discuss the objects that would be in a character's world based on what you know about them and their time period, financial status, geological location, etc. Maybe make a mood/Pinterest board.
3. In the Dropbox folder, there is a collection of photos of different bedrooms from television. Pay close attention to the set decoration and all of the small details to develop your ideas.

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/jlnf1apfn3zjdz3/AACHKOZHZNzTHIAAt1fKMJoea?dl=0>

Either in small groups or as a class, show the photos and have the students discuss the following:

- Whose room is this? What kind of person would live here, and why do you think so?
- What is the time period?
- Where in the world do they live?
- How old is the character?
- What is their financial status?
- What kinds of things do they like to do?
- Who else do you think lives in this home?

Bonus optional activity: based on the characters you've created based on their bedrooms, create a scene or skit using this character.

If you're interested in knowing where the actual rooms are from, there is a document in the Dropbox with the answers.

4. Choose an everyday object and recreate it out of an unconventional material. Try your best to keep it the same dimensions and colours but be creative with the materials. Here are some building material ideas, but anything could work:
  - Air dry clay (model magic), wood, masking tape, cardboard, fabric, Styrofoam, anything out of your recycling bin or donation pile, etc.
5. Redesign a label for a grocery item (ex: chocolate bar, shampoo bottle, cereal box etc.) that would fit into a different world. You could research historically accurate labels from the past or create totally new ones for a fictional world. Take an existing item and create a new label using photo editing software. Make sure to measure the existing label on the object to ensure it will fit once printed.

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6. Create prop sandwiches! Fake food is always fun to make for a production. One of the most fun and simplest to make are sandwiches. They can all be a little different and all sorts of materials can be used to create the different textures of the fillings. There's no wrong way to make a prop sandwich. Be creative with the materials you choose to use! Once you've made sandwiches, see what other food items you might be able to create.
  - Bread: Styrofoam (upholstery foam works best) coloured/painted to look like bread
  - Tomato, Cheese, meats etc.: coloured craft foam or felt. Use paint/markers to give it texture
  - Lettuce: Green tissue paper
  - Onions: rubber bands
  
7. Create an antiqued paper prop. Think of a paper item that could have been around for many years. What would it be? What would it look like? Try to recreate the calligraphy/handwriting of the time period you choose. Make the paper look aged by dipping it down (we like to use tea as a dye), give it strategic wrinkles and tears from it's age.