

February - Carnevale Venezia

Every year the beautiful city of Venice becomes the venue for an elaborate masked ball! Residents and visitors wear sumptuous costumes, masks and headdresses.



Hold your own Colony masked Carnevale by making decorative masks. Baker Ross (www.bakerross.co.uk) has a good selection of masks and art materials to paint and decorate or make a simple masquerade mask from white card and invite the Beavers to decorate it with crayons, felt pens, sequins, glitter and feathers! Make headdresses and capes from lengths of old curtain fabric or bright coloured bin liners - take care with plastic near faces!

To make a Medieval hat, like the ones above, cut one leg from an old clean pair of tights, knot one end and stuff with wadding, shredded paper or scrunched up paper. Fit the hat round the head and tie the ends together - decorate with crepe paper, bin liners and glittery braids and curling ribbon. Pound Shops often have a selection of gold and silver braids, sequins and glitter stickers.

Or make your own masquerade mask from card and decorate, fasten a long drinking straw or small garden stick to the side! Pearlisised poster paint, self-adhesive jewels and sparkly paper will make the masks look extra special or use scraps of shiny Christmas wrapping paper and curling ribbon!

A big butterfly mask provides lots of opportunities for amazing decorations! Why not make beautiful coloured effects by placing a few blobs of different coloured pearlisised poster paints on one half of the mask, fold the other half over it to enclose the paints and then gently rub over the mask - inside the folded halves the colours will blend. When the mask is unfolded there will be a surprise at all the new and interesting colours that have been created! Add some pipe cleaners for furry antennae and a little bit of glitter along the centre of the mask for the body!

