

The Missing Patch Batik Worksheet

The Missing Patch is a call for all creatives and balloonatics (balloon enthusiasts!), to help our hot air balloon get to Carnival in Rio, Brazil. When we receive your patch our volunteers will lovingly sew each patch together to fix the balloon envelope. When conditions are perfectly safe the balloon will make its maiden flight, billowing with the images that capture your wonderful creativity.

Batik is a beautiful way to create unique designs and is used widely in carnival traditions. We use it a lot with volunteers at The Vale to create carnival costume. We want everyone to have fun safely and because we can't be by your side this time we've adapted the process to enable safe home use. Please read this worksheet through with a cuppa before you dive in, follow this worksheet closely, and always make sure that adults supervise children throughout the whole process.

We've prepared the package inline with current government advice and have detailed the manufacturers safe usage instructions below which we urge you to follow.

Stage One – Get Ready...

Open your envelope and see what's inside, then collect everything you will need from the list below...

Inside your envelope:

What you will need:

- Silk (missing patch & scraps)
- Pattern Paper
- Black Marker Pen
- Plastic sheet
- x1 packet of PVA glue
- Latex free gloves
- x4 packets of Procion MX dyes
- x1 packet of Urea
- x3 small paint brushes
- Newsprint
- Addressed stamped envelope
- Pencil
- Rubber (Optional)
- Tape (cello tape is fine – if you don't have tape a selection of books will work)
- 6 - 10 jars/pots/tubs
- A measuring jug
- Please feel free to add additional paint brushes if you have them (optional)
- Scissors

Stage Two – Time to get designing...

Imagine all the places the balloon will fly over as it leaves Mossley for Carnival in Rio and let these inspire your design. Is there somewhere you've been? A place you want to go to? Are there beautiful shapes and colours in nature, people, symbols, architecture, food that can inspire you? Let your imagination fly and use it to create your unique missing patch.

What do I need?...

Pencil

Paper

Marker Pen

Draw your design using the paper and pencil. Once you're happy with it, go over the lines you want with the black marker pen. (This will enable the design to show through the layers of plastic and silk for the next process)

NB, please protect your table/surface with paper or plastic to prevent the marker pen ink leaking through.

When your design is finished you need to secure it:

- Tape/secure your design (if you have tape) to the table, cover with all the plastic provided to protect as much surface as possible.
- Tape/secure the plastic down so it is quite taught - use a heavy object to hold the plastic in place if you don't have tape.
- Tape/secure the silk on top of the plastic and over your design. This ensures the silk doesn't move around for the next process.

Stage Three - Applying your resist...

Resist - is a substance (usually hot wax) painted onto the silk to create a barrier so that different colours don't mix or bleed into each other. For your health and safety at home we're providing PVA glue :)

What do I need?...

Completed design taped/secured as in stage 2 above

Tape / books

One tub/jar

PVA Glue + small amount of tap water

x1 paint brush

- Empty the glue into your tub/jar and add two teaspoons of tap water and stir very well. (The water makes it easier to apply).
- Now to apply your resist - paint the PVA glue mix onto the silk, follow the lines of your design.

NB It's better to paint the glue in small amounts to keep your design detail. Please don't worry though if you do overload your brush, it's part of the handmade process.

- Once you've finished applying your resist leave the silk in position until it's completely dry.
- As soon as it's dry, peel the silk off the plastic and then turn the silk over to check for any gaps in your glue 'resist'. Fill in any unwanted gaps with the resist. If there are unintended gaps the dyes will bleed into each other, for example an area with red next to an area with green will 'bleed' and mix to create brown.
- Then it is best to leave your silk for at least 24 hours - the longer it is left the better the glue acts as a resist.

Stage Four - Mixing Dyes...

What do I need:

4 packets of Procion dyes

Urea

Gloves

Plastic to cover surface (if mixing indoors)

Measuring Jug - 500ml of warm water

4 jars/pots/tubs

x3 Paint brushes

Fiber reactive dyes such as Procion MX are quite safe to use, however when in powder form they should be handled with great care. As with all fine powders whether these are dyes, other chemicals, flour or even icing sugar, care should be taken to avoid inhalation.

Anyone suffering from asthma or any other respiratory problems should not handle synthetic or natural dyes - in powder form.

We recommend mixing the dyes in a very well ventilated area - either outside, in the kitchen under the extraction fan (make sure you cover your cooker or any food prep surfaces) or in a room with a window/door open to outside. If you have a dust mask by all means wear it when mixing dyes.

Wear gloves! - if you do get dye on your skin it will stain for a few days.

- Add the contents of the paper packet marked urea to the 500ml of warm water - stir till completely dissolved. (urea helps to keep the fabric wet long enough to help with the dye fixing process)
- Open one of the packets of dye and very carefully empty into one of your containers - I recommend putting the plastic bag inside the whole container whilst you empty the contents (see video for more info).

- Add a few drops of pre-dissolved urea water to the dye and gradually mix to make a paste, as if making hot chocolate.
- Once you have a smooth paste fill the pot with 100ml of the urea water, stirring as you pour the water in.
- Repeat the process for all colours provided.
- Once made, the dyes can be stored for around 3 days. They go off after this.

NB Please do return the plastic wallets in the clean wallet provided when you return your silk. This way we can clean and re-use them for future packs.

Stage Five - Creating colours...

We've provided 4 colours that you can use alone and/or create a rainbow

What do I need:

1 x Cerise Red / Magenta Red, 1 x Lemon Yellow, 1 x Royal Blue,
1 x One surprise extra colour :)

Up to 4 additional empty jars/tubs/pots

Silk scraps

Plastic to protect surface

Gloves

Here's a simple guide to creating the rainbow. The first colour is the larger quantity with the second colour to be added in small quantities till you have the desired shade:

- Yellow & Red = Orange
- Red & Blue = Purple

- Yellow & Blue = Green
- Dilute red to create a vibrant pink

For more information about creating different colours please watch the online tutorial about colour mixing.

Stage Six - Painting now for the messy fun to begin :)....

These dyes are fabric dyes and as with all paints and dye (synthetic and natural) if spilt on carpet or fabric it will stain. Please use these paints in a room with a hard floor, if any spillage occurs and is removed instantly, staining will be minimal.

What do I need:

Pre mixed dyes
Silk painted with PVA glue
Brushes
Plastic to protect surface
Newsprint
Tape
Gloves
Clean water
Stamped addressed envelope
Apron or old clothes

Yay - now we get to see our designs come to life!

As with the mixing make sure you are wearing gloves and old clothes!

- Use the plastic used for waxing to protect the table you are using. Check for holes and seal any by covering with tape.
- Tape 2 layers of newsprint on top of the plastic the newsprint soaks up excess dye and helps to keep the fabric damp for longer, an essential part of the fixing process.
- Tape your silk on top of the newsprint. If the silk moves it can soak up other colours on the newsprint and start to affect the accuracy of your design.
- Apply the dye using the paintbrushes supplied - as you only have a limited amount of brushes it is recommended that you use brushes for similar colours. For example one brush for orange, red and pink, one brush for blue and purple and a brush each for yellow and green. Have a few pots of clean water to clean your brush after each use and replace the water regularly.
- After you've applied the first layer of dye wait for it to dry, once dry then apply a second coat. Take extra care not to oversaturate the fabric when applying the 2nd coat.
- Once you have finished painting, leave it to dry in place.

There are a couple of things to watch for when painting:

- If the dye doesn't reach the PVA line you have not applied enough dye.
- If the dye starts to spread into areas you are not painting then too much dye has been applied and the fabric has been oversaturated. When this happens the newsprint soaks up

the excess dye and it begins to bleed into other areas of the silk.

- If a bleed occurs, blot it immediately with newsprint/paper towels and place two layers of clean newsprint underneath. If the bleed is not shifting you can brush clean water on the bleed and repeat the blotting and replacing of the newsprint process. Wait till the fabric is dry before painting again.
- **Don't panic** if a leak/bleed happens and you are not able to remove it. Once the fabric has been processed the bleed will barely be noticeable and even less so when blowing in the wind with all the other missing patches.

Once your patch is dry and you have taken lots of photos **please send it back to us in the stamped addressed envelope.** Your missing patch will help our hot air balloon get to Carnival! Thank you so much.

Visit www.themissingpatch.org for video tutorials and more