

June 18, 2025

Egg Carton Faces

*This project was taken from Mini Mad Things
You can find more of her amazing projects at
(<https://minimadthings.com/>)*



The Chinese invented cardboard in the 1600s. The English played off that invention and created the first commercial cardboard box in 1817. Pleated paper, an early form of corrugated board, initially served as lining for men's hats. By the 1870s, corrugated cardboard cushioned delicate glassware during shipment. Stronger, lined corrugated cardboard soon followed. American Robert Gair produced the first really efficient cardboard box in 1879. His die-cut and scored box could be stored flat and then easily folded for use. Refinements followed, enabling cardboard cartons to substitute for labor-intensive, space-consuming, and weighty wooden boxes and crates. Since then, cardboard boxes have been widely appreciated for being strong, light, inexpensive, and recyclable.

Over the years, children sensed the possibilities inherent in cardboard boxes, recycling them into innumerable playthings. The strength, light weight, and easy availability that make cardboard boxes successful with industry have made them endlessly adaptable by children for creative play. Shoe boxes serve as ideal settings for scenes and dioramas. Small boxes take on alternate roles as dollhouse furniture. Wheels drawn on the side turn a box into a car. Really large boxes—from washers, stoves, big-screen televisions, or refrigerators—can offer children even greater opportunity for creativity. With nothing more than a little imagination, those boxes can be transformed into forts or houses, spaceships or submarines, castles or caves. Inside a big cardboard box, a child is transported to a world of his or her own, one where anything is possible.

The cardboard box was the first toy of the imagination inducted into the National Toy Hall of Fame in 2006.

(Excerpt found at <https://www.museumofplay.org/toys/cardboard-box/>)

Let's Make Egg Carton Faces

Materials:

- egg carton
- scissors
- tacky glue
- paint or colors if you like
- any adornments you would like to add

Process:

1. The materials for this craft are limited. We use color so often that I wanted to push everyone to try and use very little, whereby using texture and shapes to create depth and detail. As always though, feel free to use whatever paint, markers or other items you may have to dress up your face.





2. Find a comfortable space to work and break out your scissors.
3. Start by separating the lid from the bottom of the carton.
4. We used the lid for the structure of the face. Feel free to use the inner part of the lid or the outer part of the lid for your face.
5. Use the egg holder side to create facial features. Young children may need help cutting the egg holder side as it is just a little tricky.



6. Use your tacky glue to secure your features.
7. Please feel free to use whatever supplies you have at home to embellish your face or just leave it as is. It's up to you!
8. Enjoy this project, get creative and most of all have fun.
9. Be proud of your creation and bring it back to Old Town Square next Wednesday so that we can hang it up for all of Fort Collins to see!

Follow us on Instagram @nola_creative_company as we will be featuring artwork from each week. We will not use full names or identify your children in any way other than using their first name in order to give credit.

About the Art for the Heart Program

Art for the Heart is a program of the Fort Collins Downtown Development Authority and NOLA Creative Company.

All returned projects will be displayed in our outdoor kiosk located in between Coopersmith's Pub and Poolside restaurants. All projects will be returned to you the following week after they have been displayed.

Each art project returned will earn you a punch on our "Frequent Artists" punch card. Artists with consistent participation (5 punches or more) will be awarded a t-shirt at the end of the program.

You can find all of our past projects and more information about the program at <https://downtownfortcollins.org/art-for-the-heart/>

This project is brought to you by:



and

