

# Norton Simon Museum

## Art-Making Activity: My Space

Édouard Vuillard was known for his paintings of indoor scenes. In [Pitch Pine Room](#), we see a little girl in red, Denise Natanson, and her companion Marcelle Aron sitting at a table in the pine-paneled room of a French country house. In this cozy scene, we see Denise reaching up towards the table, which is covered in a floral tablecloth, from her perch on a too-low wicker chair.

Take a moment to take in all of the different patterns, colors and textures in the painting, and then imagine what it would feel like to be in the room with them. Then, close your eyes and think about *your* ideal space—what colors, patterns and furniture do you see? Using cardboard, construction paper and fabric or collage scraps, create a room designed by and for you.



Édouard Vuillard (French, 1868–1940), *The Pitch Pine Room* (formerly *Denise Natanson and Marcelle Aron in the Summer House at Villerville, Normandy*), Summer 1910, oil on canvas, The Norton Simon Foundation

## Materials:



- Cardboard base (7.5" x 7.5")
- Thin cardboard (cereal box, snack box, tea box, etc.) or thick cardstock
- Construction paper
- Tissue paper (optional)
- Tape (optional)
- String (optional)
- Fabric scraps and/or collage scraps (magazine/newspaper cut-outs, decorative papers, etc.)
- Scissors
- Glue
- Pencil

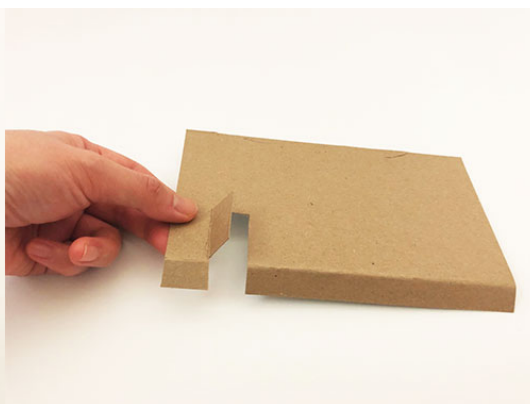
## Steps:



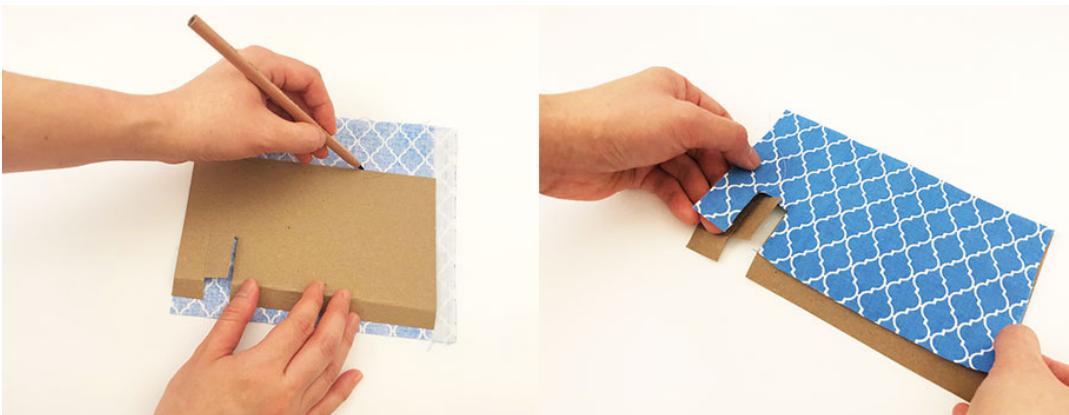
Decorate your cardboard base with fabric, construction paper and/or collage papers.



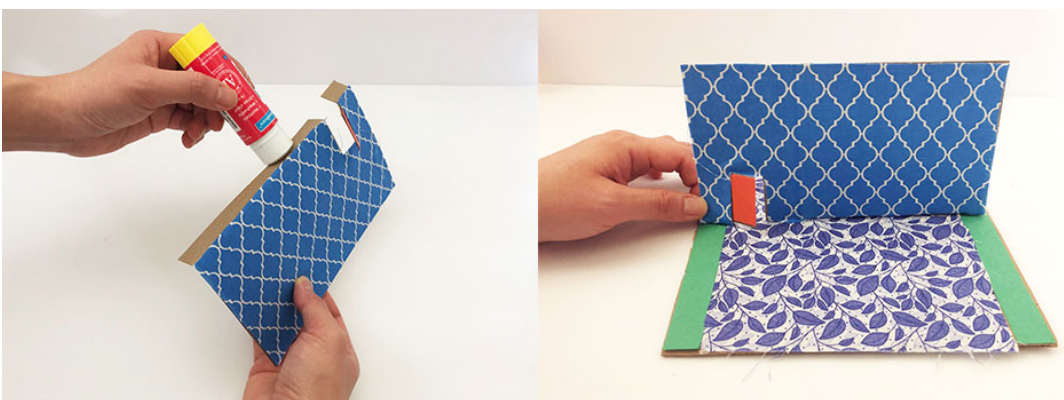
Cut thin cardboard to use as walls.



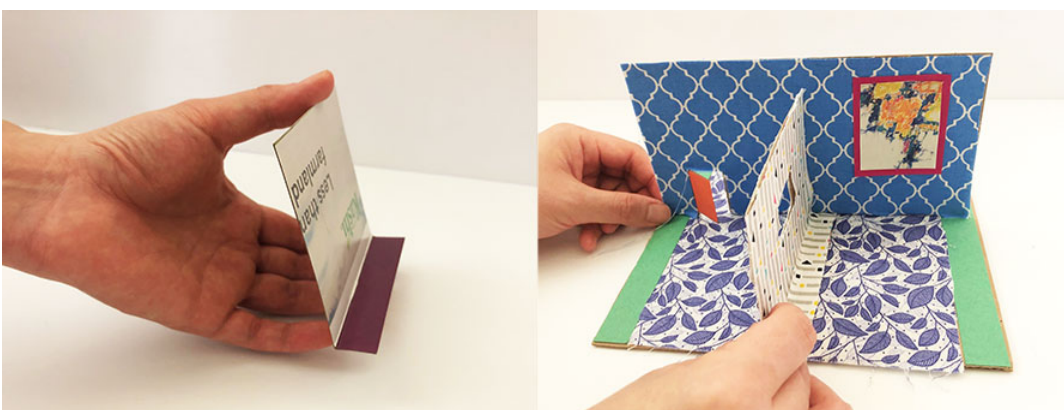
You can also cut an L-shape into the bottom of your wall to make a door.



Add some wallpaper by tracing the outline of your wall onto fabric or collage paper, leaving about a ½ inch at the bottom of the wall without wallpaper, and cutting around the door if you've added one.

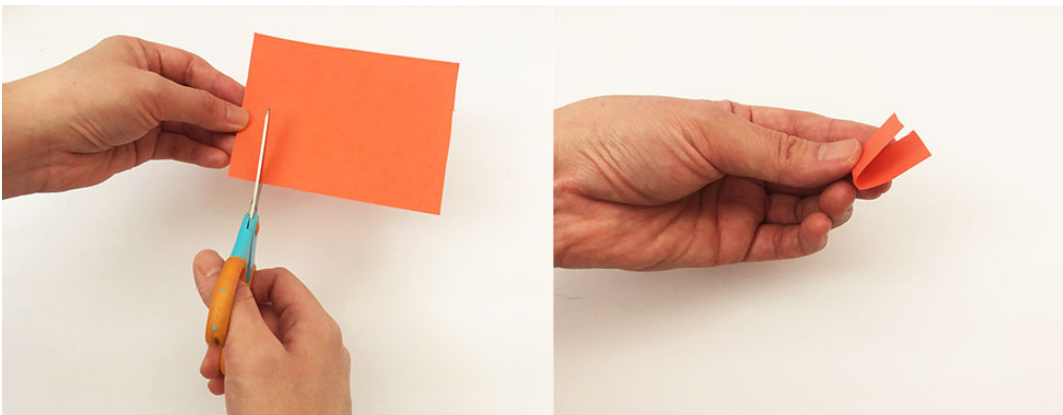


Fold and glue the bottom of your wall and securely place it onto your base.

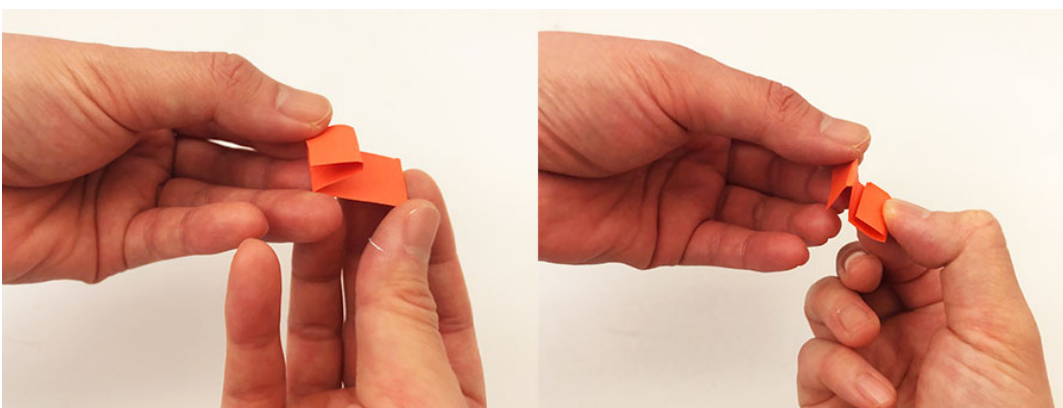


Cut another piece of thin cardboard to add another wall. Add wallpaper, fold and add glue to the bottom and place it securely on the base. Add as many walls as you like.

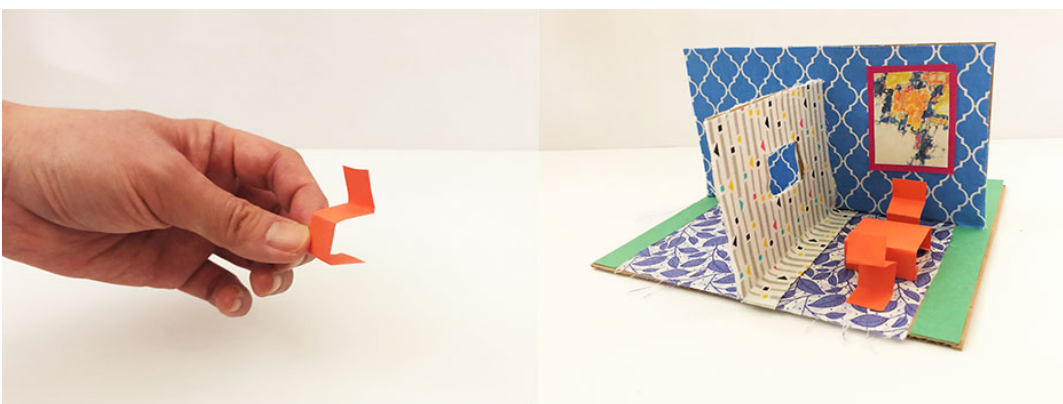




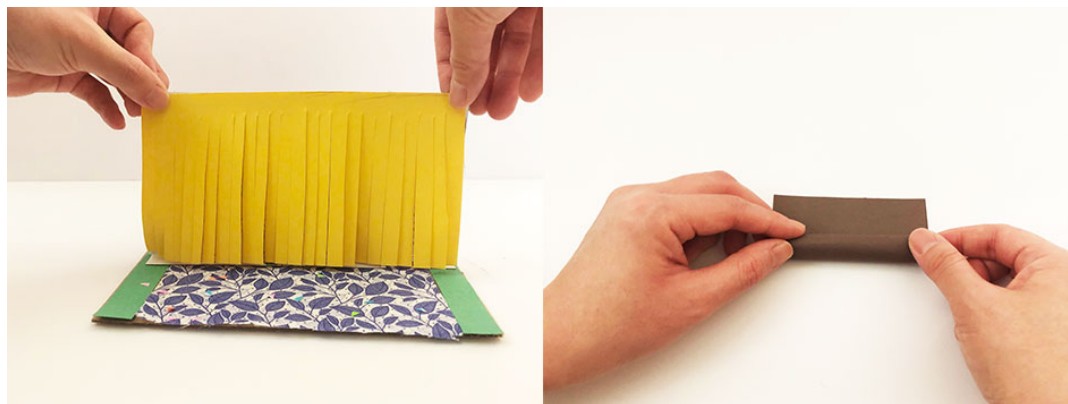
Explore making furniture with paper by cutting a strip of construction paper about 2" long and ½" wide and folding it in half.



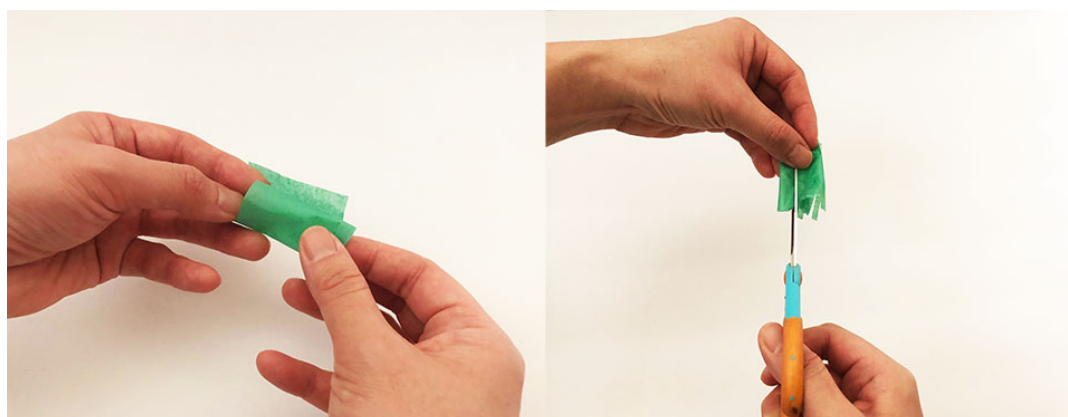
Take one end and fold it down to meet the outer middle fold. Take the other end and fold it down to meet the inner middle fold.



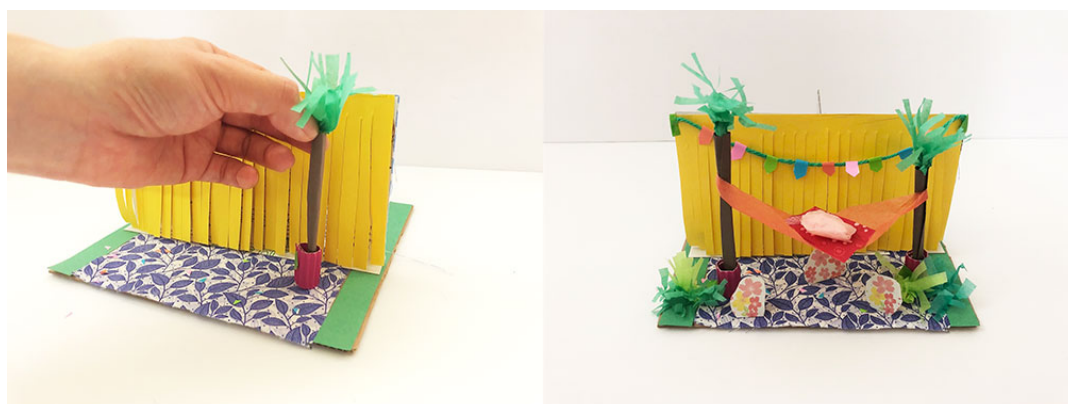
Unfold the ends to create a chair shape. This is just one way to make a chair. Experiment with folds to create furniture or other items for your space.



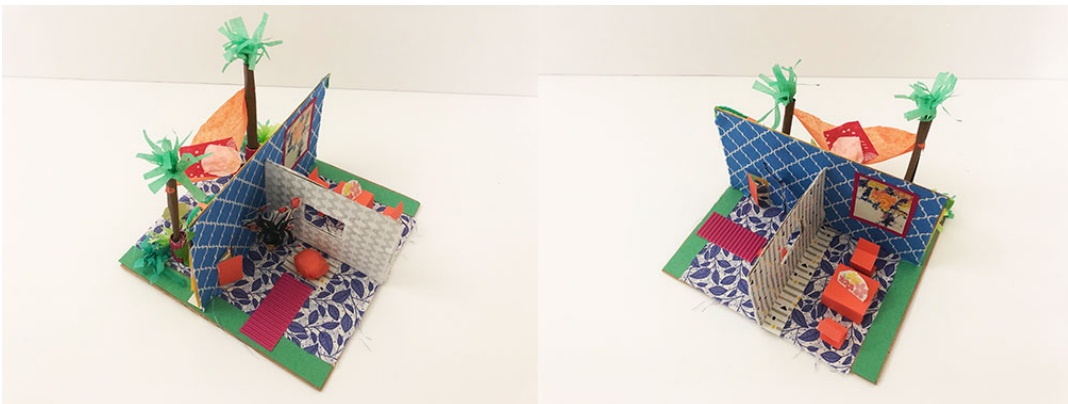
You can also explore different ways to decorate your space by cutting construction paper to create fringe wallpaper or rolling construction paper to use as a base for a plant, a lamp and more!



Roll tissue paper or construction paper and cut fringe to create the top of a tree, a plant or extra texture for your space.



Continue experimenting with your materials and add as many more items as you wish to create your ideal space.



Finally, imagine what it would feel like to be in the space designed by and for you.

