



Envision's Hands-On Anatomy Lesson

Modeling the Human Body in Paper or Felt

For Elementary-Level Students

Kids will be sure to remember what a human heart looks like if they cut it out themselves! In this learning activity, your students get hands-on with anatomy, by creating life-sized models of the human body and internal organs, using paper or felt.

Simple Materials, Simple Instructions

You will need the following supplies:

- Large pieces of cardboard, heavy paper, or sign board, to act as the base
- Multiple pieces of craft paper, construction paper, or sheets of felt, in as many colors as possible
- Several sets of kid-friendly scissors
- Diagrams or illustrations of the human form and internal organs

To conduct the activity:

- Lead a class discussion on human anatomy, including the functionality of each body part you wish to study. Use illustrations, which will later guide the students as they make their own models.
- Divide the students into pairs or small groups.
- Distribute supplies, so that each group has scissors, colored paper or felt, and a suitable base on which to build (cardboard or sturdy paper).
- Tell each group to elect their "model," who will lie down on the paper base to be traced. Another group member will take chalk, a marker or crayon, and trace the outline of the model's body. You can choose to do full-body models, or focus on the torso, neck and head.
- Once each group has their life-sized, body-shaped base, they can work individually to create paper or felt versions of the internal organs, which they will then glue in the appropriate spots. You will provide the list of the organs they must include. Let the members of each group decide which teammate will be responsible for which organs.

For very young students, you may wish to focus simply on the external parts of the body. Once they have drawn and cut out their traced outline, they can label the body parts, such as head, arms, chest, stomach, etc.

Enjoy. And don't forget to enter our promotion to win \$25 in classroom supplies! Simple promotion details available within the Resource Center blog.