

Family Day Art Activity:

Houses of Memory inspired by Do Ho Suh

South Korean artist Do Ho Suh has had to move around a lot in his life and leave behind homes that mean a lot to him. To remember and carry with him the memories of these meaningful spaces, he started making large fabric sculptures recreating his former homes -ones large enough for you to walk into like an actual house! Create your own three-dimensional house using materials from the kitchen.

At some point in your life, you have to leave your home. And whenever you go back, it's just not the same home anymore. . . . I didn't want to sit down and cry for home. I wanted to more actively deal with these issues of longing. I decided not to be sad about it. I just want to go with it. I just want to carry that with me, you know, all the time.

-Do Ho Suh



Do Ho Suh, Hub-2, Breakfast Corner, 260-7, Sungbook-Dong, Sungboo-Ku, Seoul, Korea, 2018 Polyester fabric and stainless steel 8 feet 105/8 inches × 11 feet 89/16 inches × 10 feet 8 7/16 inches (270.8 × 357 × 326.3 cm) Courtesy the artist and Lehmann Maupin, New York, Hong Kong, and Seoul © Do Ho Suh

What you will need

You can get creative with the materials you use and get most of the materials from your grocery store!

Below are suggestions for what you can use.

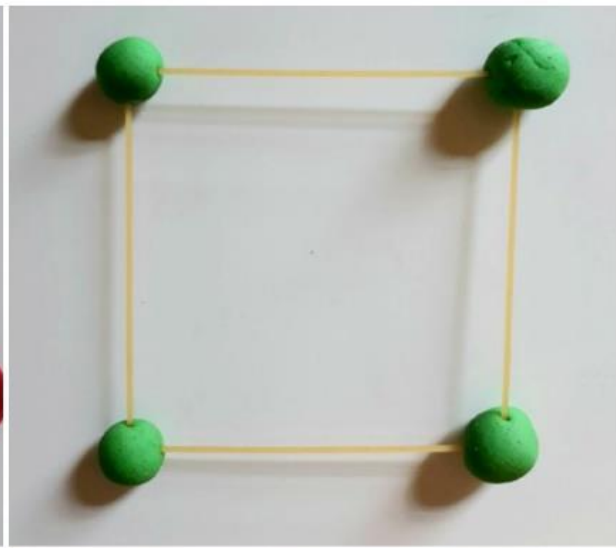
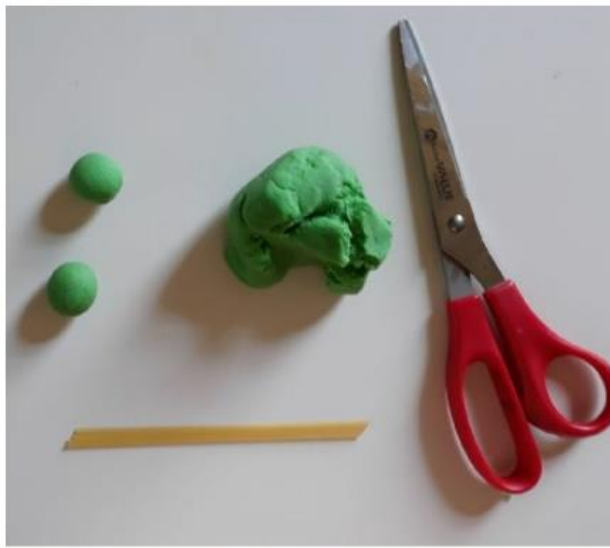
- “Sticks” (spaghetti, toothpicks, straws, sticks)
- “Gummy” (marshmallow, gummies, play doh, tape)
- Scissors

Optional:

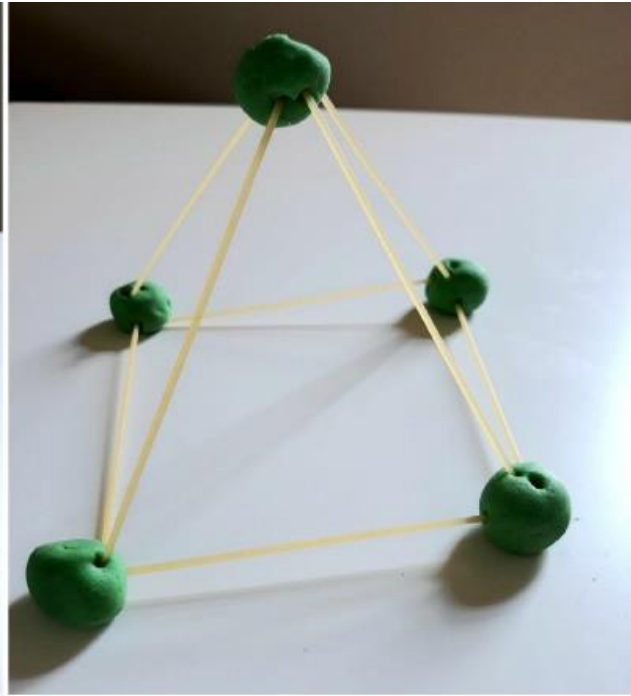
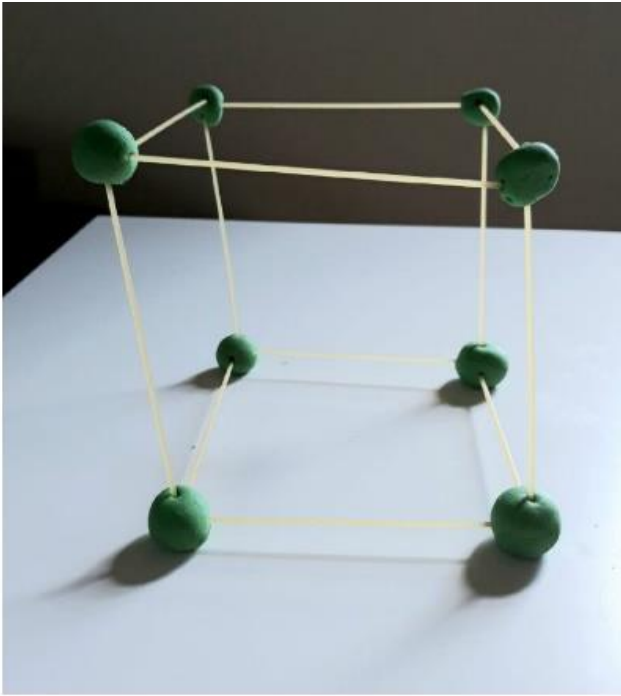
- Tape
- Tissue paper, Cling film
- Marker, Sharpies



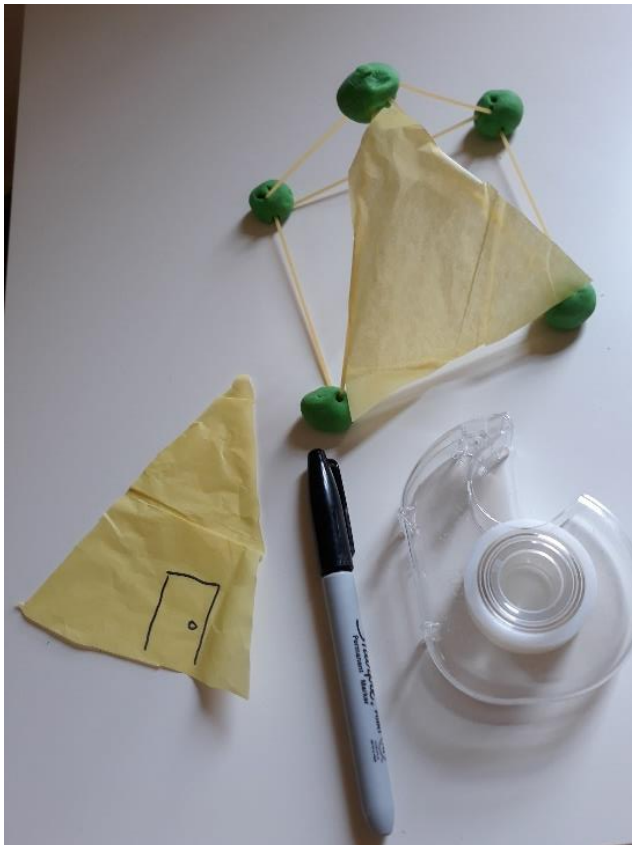
Instructions



- 1) Prepare and construct your base
 - If you're using longer “stick” materials (like spaghetti or straw), cut about 4 sticks into half to have shorter sticks (skip this step if you're using short “sticks” like toothpicks)
 - If you're using playdough, roll 4~8 mini balls to act as the “gummy” (skip this step if you're using marshmallows or gummies)



- 2) Build a three-dimensional structure using more sticks and gumies. You can form different shapes like a cube or a pyramid. It can be challenging to get the structure to stay balanced, so work together and experiment.



- 3) Optional: Add a transparent “wall” by cutting tissue paper (or other light and transparent materials) and taping. You may want to use a ruler to measure what size to cut the shapes.

- 4) Optional: You can draw details like windows and doors to make the house look more realistic. Do Ho Suh recreated even small details like the door knob or electrical outlets from his former homes in his artworks.

5) Share photos of your creation by tagging @artsmia on social media or email familyprograms@artsmia.org.



Continue Learning

Learn more about Do Ho Suh and explore the special exhibit “When Home Won’t Let You Stay” reading the learning resources [here](#) or watching the Video Tours [here](#).

Lesson by Natalia Choi, Family Learning Associate

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