Make a Spitfire model with artist Anthony Padgett

Materials & Equipment

- o   Pen or pencil
- o   paper
- o   cardboard e.g. a small brown box
- o   scissors
- o   pin
- o   blue-tack
- o   felt tips, pencil crayons or paints & brush
- o   Cellotape
- o   Computer printer desirable but not essential if you copy it free hand from the screen

How To Make It

Print or sketch the drawing of the Spitfire on A4 paper. Cut out the shapes – these will be your templates.

Put the templates over flat cardboard. Draw around the shapes. To draw the dotted lines, hold the template on your card and press firmly with your pencil over the lines, it should leave an impression on the card.   Remember to draw the centre lines of the wings.
Colour the cardboard shapes. Cut them out then colour the other sides.
Cut through the dotted lines (ask an adult to do this).

Insert the wings by putting a couple of fingers one side of the slot and pushing the wing into the slot from the other side (target to the front and the rear wings flaps are to the back).

The Spitfire has a heavy engine. Your plane will flip so you need to weigh down its nose. Add some blue-tack, or some extra tape. Experiment to find how much you need to add.

Optional

Use the drawing and templates to make the propeller. You can try 2 or 3 blade versions. Give each blade a single twist between your fingers.

Insert a pin through the centre of the propeller (ask an adult to do this). Wiggle the pin to create room for the propeller to spin.

Insert the pin into the nose of the plane. The propeller should spin when you blow it. If not then try spinning with your finger. Wiggle some more and adjust the pin to get a spin.

Colouring Tips

If your cardboard is from a box with a design on it then you can cover it with some white paint or your original template. To get the other side of the plane's body you can turn your template over and trace the shapes on another piece of paper.

You can colour in the cardboard plane with felt tips, pencil crayons, or paint. To get the best effect you might need to paint the cardboard plane white first. Then your colours will really stand out.

Flying

Hold the plane behind the nose and in front of the wing, and take off!
Never fly the plane at anyone.

Extra Work

Try making it larger or smaller. The bigger the print the thicker the cardboard required. Research plane designs and then make other planes or your own design. See which flies the best.

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