

Activity: Paper Dolls

In Europe, paper dolls have been popular since the mid-18th century

What you will need:

- Paper doll chain, selection of paper clothing, hair, accessories, coloured pencils & felt-tip pens, scissors, glue sticks

1. Take a piece of paper (8.5" x 11") and cut it lengthwise.
2. Fold it into quarters accordion (pleated) style.
3. Draw a figure of a person on the top layer. Be sure that the arms extend beyond the edge of the folded sheet.
4. Cut the figure out and unfold. You will get a chain of dolls holding hands.

How to:

- Lay out all materials on the tables, including a selection of clothing and accessories for the paper dolls.
- Introduce activity: In pairs, participants will create and decorate a paper doll chain.
- Instruct participants to select clothing and use glue sticks to attach the outfits to the paper doll chain. Encourage the pairs of participants to work together. While they are working, encourage pairs to talk about their favourite childhood toys and games.
- Hang the chains around the room, with guidance from the participants.

