

A Model World

To the Teacher: Before completing any balloon activity, ask families about possible latex allergies. Also, remember that uninflated or popped balloons may present a choking hazard.

To the Student: To learn the relative location of the continents and other important global features, make a model of the earth.

Materials:

Newspapers
Round balloon, at least 9" (23 cm) when inflated
Papier-mâché paste
Large bowl
Craft paints (various colors)
Craft paintbrushes
Black marker



Directions:

1. Cover a work surface with newspapers.
2. Tear additional newspapers into 1" x 5" (2.5 cm x 12.7 cm) strips.
3. Inflate a balloon and secure the end of the balloon with a knot.
4. Dip a newspaper strip into the papier-mâché paste and place it on the balloon. Smooth the strip to remove excess paste and any air bubbles.
5. Continue placing the strips until the balloon is completely covered with three layers.
6. Let the papier-mâché dry for at least two days.
7. Repeat Steps 5 and 6.
8. When the papier-mâché is dry, carefully use a black marker to draw the shapes of the seven continents to create a globe.
9. Paint the continents using seven different colors. Paint the oceans blue.
10. Using the black marker, label the seven continents and four oceans.
11. Draw the equator, prime meridian, and international date line on the globe.