

Mondays at the Museum

(at home!)



ORANGE REGIONAL MUSEUM

This week we are looking at **cassowaries**.

Below is a picture of a Southern Cassowary from our exhibition *Capturing Nature: early photography at the Australian Museum 1857-1893*.



This photo shows the first cassowary shown in the Australian Museum. When the bird was first collected from Far North Queensland over 150 years ago the Museum's scientists believed they had discovered a new species. They were disappointed to find out that this species of cassowary had already been discovered 12 years earlier.

Image: Southern Cassowary, *Casuarius casuarius*. Photo © Australian Museum



Paper plate cassowary

This week we are going to make our very own cassowaries.

| What you'll need: | Substitute |
|--|---|
| 1 paper plate, cut in half | Semicircular piece of cardboard or paper |
| Paintbrush | Old toothbrush |
| Black and white paint | |
| Template printed on white A4 paper or card | Sketch the template onto scrap cardboard or paper |
| Coloured pencils, markers or crayons | |
| Scissors | |
| Glue stick | |

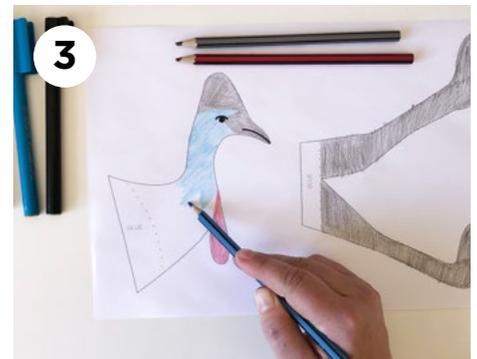
Instructions



1. Paint your half paper plate black. Wash your paintbrush.



2. While the black paint is still a little wet, dip your paintbrush in a small amount of white paint and paint some stripes or squiggles up and down on your paper plate to look like feathers.



3. Take your cassowary template and colour in the legs, beak and 'helmet' grey, the face and neck blue, and the 'wattle' red.



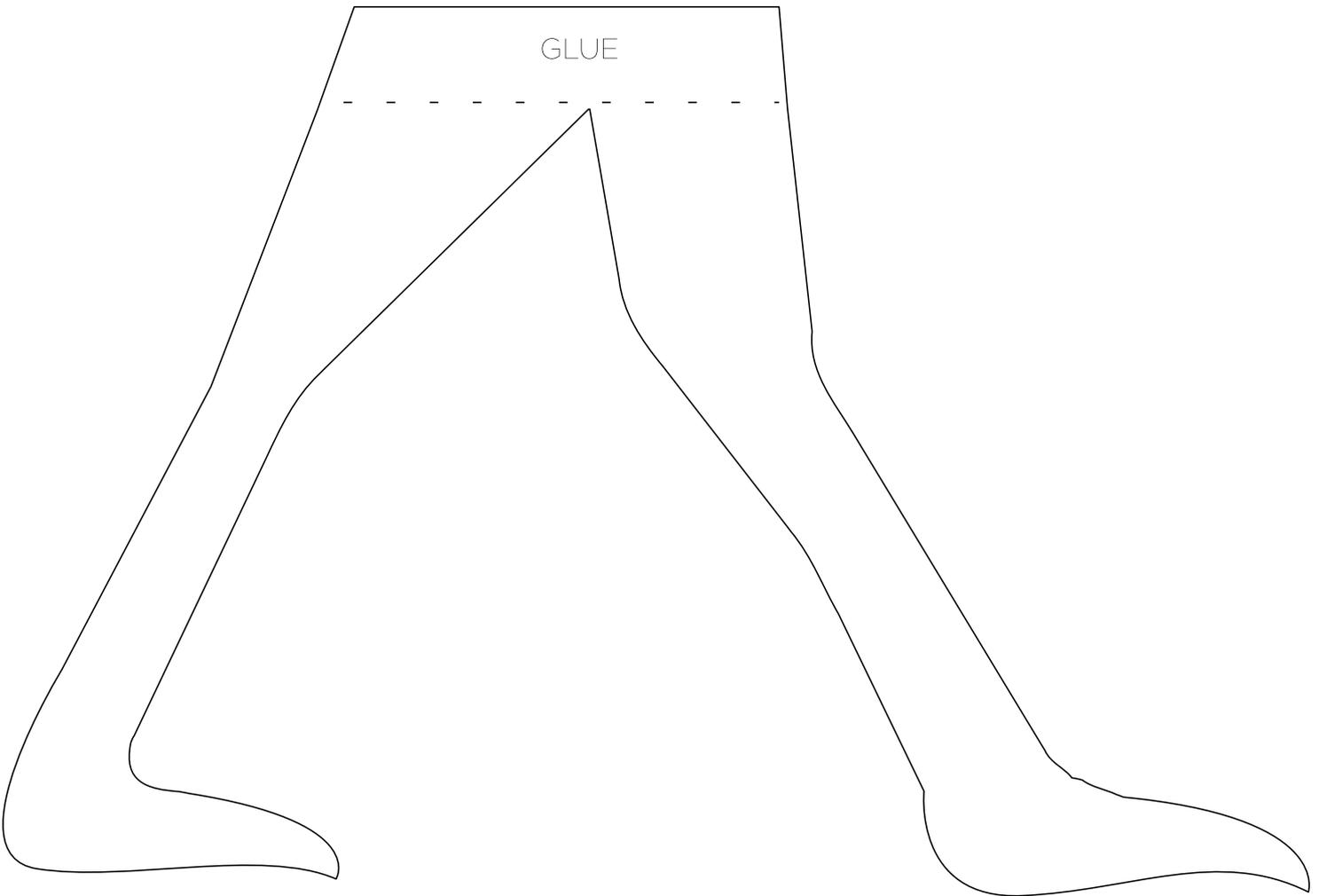
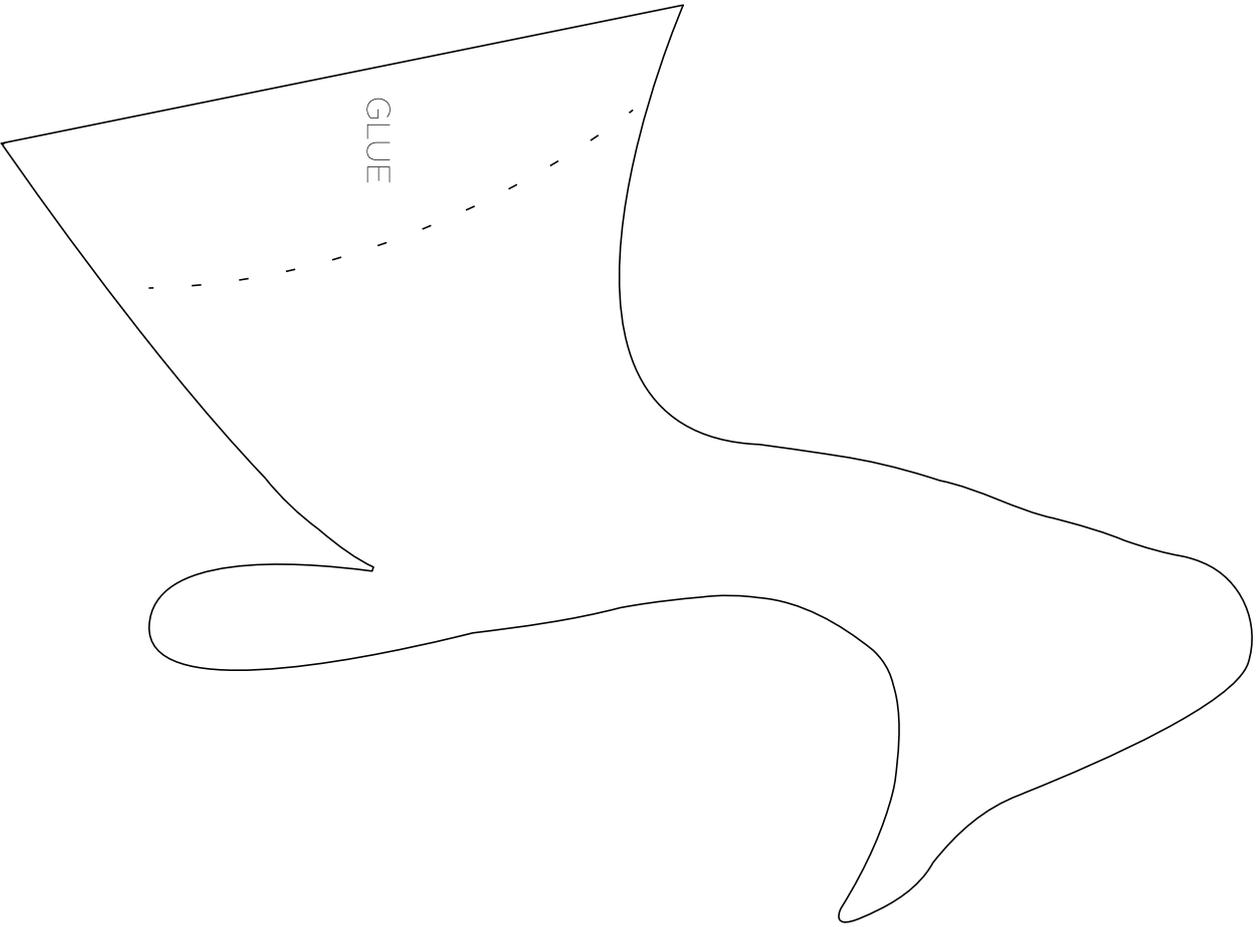
4. Carefully cut out your cassowary using your scissors.



5. Put a little glue on the tab at the base of the neck and stick on round side of your paper plate as shown.



6. Put a little glue on the tab at the top of the legs and stick in the middle of the flat side of your paper plate as shown.





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Extra Time:

1. Cassowaries can grow to be 150cm-200cm tall, which makes them around the same height as an adult human! Find a tape measure and, with an adult's help, can you measure out 200cm? Is your adult helper taller or shorter than a cassowary?
2. Cassowaries live in Far North Queensland, as well as in New Guinea and eastern parts of Indonesia. Can you look up where these places are on a map?
3. Cassowaries live in the rainforest. Can you make a rainforest scene for your paper plate cassowary to live in? You could draw some rainforest trees, or make them out of coloured paper.