



Make a Masterpiece

Dress Your Stuffed Pet

Treat your favorite stuffed animal to a new outfit! Use your imagination and a variety of creative materials to design and construct a special costume for your furry friend.

Suggested Materials:

- Fabric scraps
- Ribbon/yarn
- Buttons or beads
- Velco, glue dots, liquid glue
- Plastic sewing needles (or real needles for older children or with adult supervision for younger children)
- Scissors
- Ruler or tape measure
- Your favorite stuffed animal(s)



What you do:

- Decide what type of costume or costume elements you want to make.
- Select appropriate sizes of fabric scrapes.
- Lay your fabric out flat on a tabletop, measure, and use a marker or pencil to create outlines where you want to cut – creating a basic pattern or template.
- Cut out your desired shape(s).
- Experiment with layering multiple pieces of fabric.
- Sew, tie, or glue selected pieces to hold them together.
- Select additional items to add to your costume: ribbon, buttons, beads, etc.



Costume Making Hints:

- If you're making a larger costume that will wrap around your entire furry friend, use a ruler to measure the stuffed animal to create a basic pattern or template. This will help you gauge where to cut out the head, arms, legs, or tail hole(s).
- Keep it simple. Perhaps start with just one element such as a hat or cape. You can always add onto your stuffed pet's outfit over time.
- With the help of an adult, practice sewing skills with a real needle and thread. Older children may be able to do this on their own.
- Think about what else could you use to make outfits. Perhaps an old t-shirt, tissue paper, or items from your recycling bin?