

Make a Hoggle

Create your own version of Hamish's home!

Though Hamish sometimes prefers to sleep in the heather, he has his own cozy home – the McHaggis Hoggle!

There are any number of different ways to make your own version with whatever you can find at home, such as cardboard boxes or coloured paper. You might even want to try building a pillowfort Hoggle. Here is a beautiful example from Howwood Primary School:



One option is to use Paper Mache, which we will outline here. Paper mache is a fun and easy craft that lets you create all kinds of cool things. It's a perfect activity for a rainy day, and you only need a few simple ingredients. Let's get started!

Materials:

- Old newspaper
- A balloon (+ something to keep it upright)
- 1 mug of plain flour
 - Can be substituted for PVA glue
- 1 mug of warm water (plus a little extra if needed)
- A big mixing bowl
- A paintbrush (optional, but helpful)

Instructions:

1. **Prepare the Balloon:** Blow up the balloon, and find something to put it in that will keep it upright. We have used a small flower pot.
2. **Rip the Paper:** Tear or cut your newspaper into small strips or squares. Do this first so your paste doesn't dry while you're getting ready.
3. **Make the Paste:** In a big bowl, mix the flour and warm water until it's smooth, like pancake batter. If it's too thick, add a little more water. Try to get rid of any lumps.
4. **Time to Get Messy:** Cover your table with newspaper to keep it clean. Dip a strip of paper into the paste, wipe off any extra on the edge of the bowl, and stick it onto the top half of your balloon. Use a paintbrush to smooth it out and remove air bubbles.
5. **Layer It Up:** Keep adding paper strips until the entire top half of the balloon is covered. Though two layers should be enough, feel free to add more to make your Hoogle extra sturdy!
6. **Drying time:** Let your creation dry completely before it's time to paint. The drying time will depend on how many layers you have included. Check back in 24 hours to see, but it might take an extra day if you have more than two layers.
7. **Final preparations:** Once your creation is completely dry, it's time to pop and remove the balloon. If your Hoogle isn't very steady, you might need to use some scissors (ask an adult if you need help!) to cut off some at the bottom. There is also the option to cut out a door shape, should you wish for your Hoogle to be slightly open.
8. **Decoration time:** This is the time to let your imagination run wild and make your Hoogle come alive. We have used acrylic paint to decorate and added some fake easter grass, but you could always look for things in your garden for some final touches!

