

D.I.Y. BOWTIE



ABOUT THE MAKER

Maxine Beneba Clarke is the creator of this resource and a featured writer in the *Portrait 23: Identity* publication. An Australian writer and illustrator of Afro-Caribbean descent, she is the author of over ten books, including the children's books *Fashionista* and *When We Say Black Lives Matter*.

Famous bow tie wearers

Albert Einstein, scientist
Mr Squiggle, entertainer
Marlene Dietrich,
actor and singer
Dr Who,
time traveller

Maxine invites you to create your own bow tie!

Bow ties are usually cloth bows that decorate your neck. You can use a strip of material and self-tie it into a bow, or cheat with a pre-tied bow fastened onto a loop of elastic or one that clips onto your shirt.

You can wear a bow tie for fun, adding colour and style to your outfit.

A bow tie can express your personality and interests, and help tell the world your story!

DIY bow tie

You will need:

- 1 glue stick
- 1 piece of cardboard or this resource
- 1 piece of elastic, about 30cm long
- 1 pair of scissors
- 1 lead pencil

Lots of decorations: foil, cupcake wrappers, washi tape, stickers, magazines for collage, glitter, wrapping paper.

Steps

Use this resource or draw your own bow tie shape on your piece of card.

Cut out your bow tie.

Fold the centre of the bow tie half horizontally, and cut two small vertical lines in the centre.

Decorate both sides of the bow tie with different designs and materials. Use colours, textures, pictures, patterns or words to create a bow tie 'portrait' that tells the world about who you are.

Thread the elastic through the two slits, and tie its ends together.

Strut your stuff!

Tie trivia

- ✘ Ties, or cravats, were originally used by soldiers to close the collars of their shirts.
- ✘ Bow ties became fashion accessories in the 1800s.
- ✘ Bow tie pasta is *farfalle*, the Italian word for butterfly.
- ✘ Some people buy or make bow ties for their cats, dogs, pet mice or even guinea pigs!
- ✘ It takes about 110 silk worm cocoons to make a silk tie.
- ✘ A grabatologist is a person who collects ties.