



Lesson: Creative Collage

Artform: Visual Art

Skill Level: Low

Teaching Artist: Kathi Darby

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Create a colorful and textural collage

- Students will explore mixed media
- Students will use a variety of materials to create original art
- Students will use elements of composition in their art

BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Students will use a wide variety of materials to create an original art collage. Some of the principles of composition include:

1. Never put the focus of your work in the exact center of the piece, try putting it to one side.
2. Use a variety of materials and textures.
3. Try to show some “movement” or “flow” by putting similar pieces in curved or zigzag lines in your art.

Change the size, shape, pattern and color of your pieces.

Collage was a favorite of some of the contemporary artists and they liked to mix up the materials. It is okay to try to use materials you would not think to use in art, like buttons, or lace or torn paper.

MATERIALS

- A large (11 X 14 or larger) piece of poster board, card stock, foam board, cardboard or other sturdy surface.
- Glue or glue stick
- Scissors
- A wide variety of common objects, such as cotton swabs or cotton balls, , beans, peas, toothpicks, tissue paper (flat or crumbled), scrapbook paper, gift wrap paper, white paper, aluminum foil, dyed pasta, buttons or rice, ground spices, markers, and crayons.

ACTIVITIES

1. Collect a variety of materials you will use for your collage.
2. Cut out any large shapes from the scrapbook paper, gift wrap paper, white paper or aluminum foil.
3. Color any white paper however you wish, using the markers or crayons. You can draw anything you like on the paper and then cut it out.
4. Glue cut papers and colored papers onto surface using wet glue, starting with the cut out large paper shapes first. Be sure you have all your colored and patterned papers in the places you want them before you glue them down.
5. It might be fun to try to make a face or a tree.
6. Glue the other materials (swabs, beans, rice, toothpicks, peas, tissue or whatever you have found) in the spaces between your cut papers. Try to make a flow of the same materials

from left to right across your paper, but NOT in a straight line. This is called movement, it is how your eye moves through the art.

7. Try to mix up colors, or you can go with a theme, maybe all cool colors like blues, greens and violets. You may also try the warm colors, like red, orange and yellow.
8. Use different textures and fill your whole surface. You can mix these up, by putting soft, smooth, bumpy and rough together in the work.
9. Use plenty of glue for all your materials and let it dry for at least a day.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR INCLUDING ALL CHILDREN

Help those with motor issues in cutting paper shapes and gluing materials. You may also need to use larger crayons to help with coloring. Gloves can be worn if they are sensitive to the glue. Hand over hand assistance are also ways to assist children with this activity.



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