

Abstract art collage

Art and crafts

Up to 60 minutes

You will need:

Paper in a range of colours

Paint (acrylic is ideal in two or three different colours)

Glue

Scissors

Brushes

A selection of tools, such as pieces of cardboard, cork stoppers, used gift cards, sponges, brushes, tubes; anything that creates texture

A plate or palette for paints

Fun
Focused
Creative

This is a great activity for participants who don't feel confident with art activities. The three main stages – paint, scissors and glue – could be made into separate activities for different capacity levels if preferred.

To begin:

Share the selection of tools with your group. Demonstrate with one or two of them to show how they can be used to create different patterns and textures on the paper. Then give each participant a piece of paper and invite them to explore how they can use the different tools.

Things to try:

- Dragging a used plastic gift card through the paint to find interesting effects.
- Pressing a sponge into the paint to create texture.
- Using a cork to make circular patterns.

Allow the group time to experiment and see what they can create! When the paper is covered in paint and people are happy with the results, leave it to dry completely. Everybody needs at least one piece of painted paper but could do more if they are enjoying the process.

Next:

When the paint is dry, invite your group to carefully cut their painting up into triangles of various sizes. Some people may need assistance to do this, but others will be happy to do it on their own.

To finish:

Give each member of the group a blank piece of A4 paper and show them how they can begin to arrange their painted triangular pieces to fill the area. It can help if you demonstrate this and show them how nice it can look if you leave a small space between each piece – like creating your own jigsaw puzzle. Some people may want to create a gradient by going from one colour to another or it could be completely random – support your group to work how they feel comfortable. However they decide to lay their pieces out, they will have an eye-catching piece of art. When satisfied with the arrangement, glue the pieces into place – their work is now finished!

Credit:

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