

Winter landscapes

Art and crafts

40-60 minutes

You will need:

Dark or black paper

Paintbrushes

Acrylic paints (light colours)

Sponges

Felt-tip pens

Pencils

Images of snowy winter scenes
(from a book or the Internet)

One-to-one



Calming
Peaceful
Focused

This painting activity explores the beauty and colours in snowy, wintry landscapes, focusing on the shades in the sky and the shapes of the leafless trees. It is a lovely activity to do in a group or in a pair.

To begin:

Explain that you are going to paint snowy scenes on some black or dark paper.

Start by making sketches of the scenes that you would like to create using a pencil. There doesn't need to be a lot of detail – you don't need to include much more than the shape of the landscape or large features such as trees. Participants could take inspiration from a picture of a snowy scene, or if it is a snowy day you could look out of the window.

Next:

Encourage participants to use a sponge to dab light coloured acrylic paint onto their scene. Press harder for areas where they would like a greater coverage, such as the land, and do lighter dabs for areas such as the sky or clouds.

Still using a sponge, participants can use darker colour paints and grey tones to add shadows and texture. They can also add more texture by using the side of their brush in a dabbing motion.

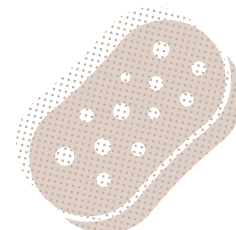
Allow the paint to dry and then add finer details using a paintbrush or felt-tip pens. This would be a good time to add in animals or birds, or the shapes of the branches on a tree.

You could also:

Start with something more abstract and look for pictures within your design.

To do this, participants start with a dark sheet of paper and then use white acrylic paint to cover the page using long, sweeping movements of the paintbrush. They could also use their sponge to add texture.

Once dry, look at the abstract paintings. *Can they see any shapes in the pictures that could be developed into something else? Are there long tree trunks or the edges of snowy buildings?* If they spot interesting features, they can draw out the details using a black pen or paint with a fine brush.



Credit:

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