

Fabric Pegging

Explore line, fabrics and textures with an easy and practical technique that teaches a variety of skills.

Materials

- Pencils
- Corrugated card from cardboard boxes
- Old biros
- Selection of fabrics cut into small pieces
- PVA glue
- Glue spreader.

CROSS-CURRICULAR

IDEA

Look at rag rugging as part of History.



Method

- Cut a selection of fabrics into small pieces about 4 - 5cm.
- Talk to the children about different kinds of lines using vocabulary such as curved and straight.
- Ask the children to describe a line in the air with their fingers. Repeat with a different kind of line.
- Ask the children to draw a curved or straight line on a piece of corrugated card with a pencil.
- An adult now makes holes in the card using an old biro leaving 1 - 2 cm between each hole.
- Model the technique of fabric pegging for the children. Lay a small piece of fabric over one of the holes then push it in with a blunt pencil or an old biro.
- Invite the children to sift through the fabric pieces and talk about the different colours and textures.
- Ask them to make a selection of pieces they like, encouraging them to choose pieces that are related to each other perhaps by colour or texture.
- The children now complete their fabric pegging. It is useful to spend a little time discussing the results and talking about what they would do differently on another occasion.
- The fabric pieces are fixed in place by spreading a layer of PVA glue over the back of the card with a glue spreader. Avoid making the glue layer too thick as it makes the card soggy and takes a long time to dry.

Taking it Further

Try pegging larger pieces of fabric into loosely woven hessian to create simple rag rugs. Create a small class rag rug that children can work on periodically over a term. Keep the design very simple for best results.

This activity encourages children to explore different fabrics and textures while making selections. The manipulative skills required encourage greater control while being aware of the type of line they are creating.