

Natural Forms Collage

This collage task can be a single, stand-alone lesson or can be extended into a series that includes observational drawing, collage, designing, experimenting with surfaces or working on a large scale.

Preparation

Create some exploratory pieces in sketchbooks using a range of collage materials. Try combining varied materials or overlay different types of paper. Use watercolour paint, inks or dyes over the papers and experiment with the wide range of effects that can be produced. Annotate briefly when dry.

Method

- Ask the children to place a viewfinder onto a natural form, moving it until they find an area that appeals to them.
- Do a line drawing of the chosen area – in sketchbooks if working in a series or on paper for a single task. Choose a size appropriate to the task (If part of an APFS project this will need to be either A4 or relevant template size according to the project).
- Thinking back to the preparatory work, ask children to choose from a variety of collage materials and work over the drawn image.
- Add textured materials if appropriate.
- Add thin paint, dyes or Brusho® colour as required.
- Continue to build up layers, considering the work of others to inform what they are doing.

Taking it Further

Work on a much larger scale using sugar paper & chalk to draw with before adding collage materials. Restrict the class to working with the same natural form and focus on the range and variety of responses.

Materials

Drawing pencils
Viewfinder
Natural form e.g. wood grain, shell, feather
Paper
Scissors
Glue
Thin paint, dye, Brusho® colour
Papers, fabrics & other collage materials.

