



Home Makes: Under the Sea Collage Adventure

This activity is perfect for Early Years Foundation Stage children aged 3-5 and an adult.

Voyage into the deep and make an underwater collage using scraps of card and paper. Tear, cut, stick, tell stories and learn about shapes.

A collage takes scrap materials and transforms them into something new. You'll be following in the footsteps of artists like Pablo Picasso, who loved a good collage.



Materials:

You can use any paper and card-based materials for this activity, this could include;

- Cardboard
- Cereal packs
- Food labels from tins or cartons
- Magazines
- Junk mail
- Leaflets
- Envelopes
- Plain or lined paper
- Newspaper
- Coloured card
- Tissue paper
- Napkins or kitchen roll

Equipment:

- Scissors (optional)
- Glue or sticky tape
- Colour pens, pencils or crayons (optional)

You'll learn about:

Making patterns, understanding and creating shapes, using your hands

Time:

This activity can take from 30 minutes to two hours.

It has been broken down into two halves—you can split it over two days or do it all in one go if you're really having fun!

Part One: make your shapes

- Go on a scavenger hunt to collect your scrap paper and card
- Look for colours and textures that remind you of the sea
- Cut and tear your materials to make different shapes

Talk and Make

- Can you cut or tear 10 squares, circles and triangles?
- Can you make your shapes different sizes?
- What colours are you choosing for your shapes?

Part Two: make your collage

- Arrange all your shapes on a blank piece of paper. Can you make an octopus? Don't worry if it looks a bit abstract!
- When you're happy with your collage stick the pieces onto the paper

Talk and Make

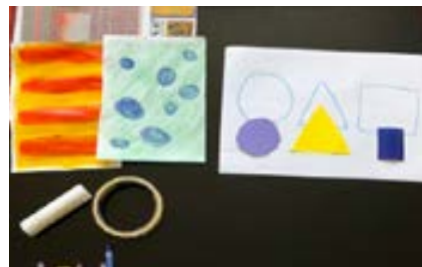
- Can you rearrange your shapes to make other sea creatures?
- Can you tell a story about your animal?

Tips for adults:

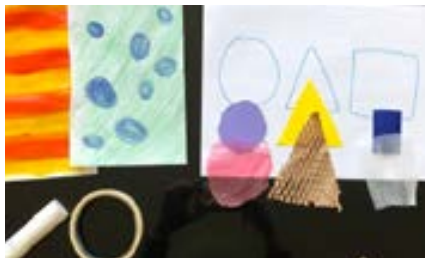
- If you don't have colourful paper or card you can add colour using pens, pencils or crayons
- It doesn't matter if children's shapes are a bit wonky—they are experimenting and learning to use new tools. If you want to, cut a guide from thicker card and draw round it to make more accurate shapes
- If you don't have scissors, tear shapes from thinner materials. You might get nice textures along torn edges
- Add in some maths skills by counting the shapes you've made
- Encourage children to lay out the shapes before sticking their collage. Move the shapes around to see what looks best
- Draw or stick in other under-the-sea features. See what other materials you can add—spaghetti sea-weed?
- Don't worry if it doesn't look like an octopus, you can always draw eyes on when it's finished!



Gather all of your materials and equipment together.



Start by cutting out shapes from the card or paper you have.



Can you cut shapes from different types of materials? How do they feel?



What would happen if you cut out shapes of different sizes?



Can you tear the materials into your shapes?



Once you have all of your shapes you can start arranging them on a piece of paper.



When you're happy with your octopus you can stick your shapes to the paper.



Don't forget to add some eyes!

Be sure to share photos of your work with us using the hashtags: #EverydayMaking and #GetCreativeAtHome



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