

# Enjoy Family Time

## Exploring Art



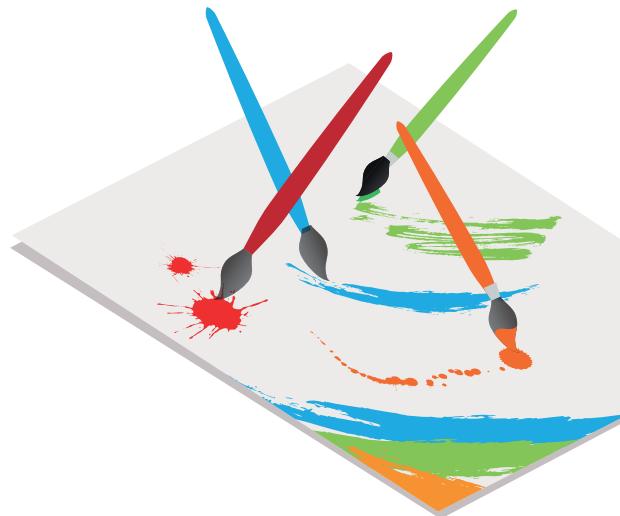
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# Understanding Colours

## Primary Colours

The primary colours are red, blue and yellow. They cannot be made by mixing two other colours together.



## Secondary Colours

The secondary colours are purple, orange and green. They are made by mixing two primary colours together.

red + blue = purple

red + yellow = orange

yellow + blue = green

## Complementary Colours

Each colour has an opposite colour. These are called complementary colours. Complementary colours can be used instead of black to make their opposite colour darker and, if mixed in the right amounts, will make grey. When complementary colours are next to each other, they will make each other stand out.

The complementary colours are:

red and green

blue and orange

yellow and purple

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# Colour Mixing

## Materials needed

- Pencil
- Paper
- Red paint
- Blue paint
- Yellow paint
- White paint
- Brushes
- Water pit



## How to make a Colour Wheel

- Colour wheels are a useful tool for making art and reminding you how colours work together
- Draw a circle on your paper, use a plate or compass to get the shape if needed.
- Split your circle into 12 equal sections, use a ruler to help if needed.
- Starting at the top, number your sections 1-12 moving clockwise around your circle.
- Paint section 1 red, paint section 2 yellow and paint section 9 blue.
- Mix some red paint and yellow paint together to make orange paint. Paint section 3 orange.
- Mix some yellow paint and blue paint together to make green paint. Paint section 7 green.
- Mix some blue paint and red paint together to make purple paint. Paint section 11 purple.
- Mix some red paint with your new orange paint and paint section 2 with the resulting colour.
- Mix some orange paint with some yellow paint and paint section 4 with the resulting colour.
- Continue to move around your colour wheel filling in the remaining sections by mixing together the colours either side of that section.

TIP: Make sure you clean your paint brush each time you mix a new colour.

If you don't clean your brush, you will mix in other colours and end up with a muddy brown colour.

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# Making Black & Grey

Both black and grey can be made by mixing red, blue and yellow together

## How to make it

- Mix red, blue and yellow paint together in different amounts until you get a grey or black colour.
- Add small amounts of each colour at a time
- You might find it easier to mix secondary colours (orange, green and purple) from your primary colours (red, blue and yellow) first.  
This will allow you to mix complementary colours together
- Complementary colours equal each other out when mixed together and help to make a grey or black colour.  
If your colour is too yellow add more purple, if it's too red add green, or if it's too blue add orange.
- If you have different types of blue, red and yellow paint, explore how different shades of each colour affect the black and grey colours you can make.

# Matching Colours

## How to make it

- Collect five objects from inside the house or from the garden. They could be anything (for example a leaf, a sweet wrapper) but you need to be able to stick them onto a piece of paper.
- Fold your paper in half lengthways and split each half into five equal sections.
- Use glue or tape to attach your five objects to your paper, one in each section on the top half of your paper.
- Mix a colour that matches the first object and paint it in the section below.  
Continue to mix colours that match your objects until you have one for each object and all the bottom sections are full.
- Repeat this activity using more objects or choosing objects that are different shades of the same colour.

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# Landscape

Landscapes are most commonly of natural views, like mountains, hills, rivers and trees, but they can also be of buildings and urban scenes.

From your garden or looking from a window, use the information below to try creating your own landscape.

You can try drawing or painting using any material you want.

Here are some handy tips to help

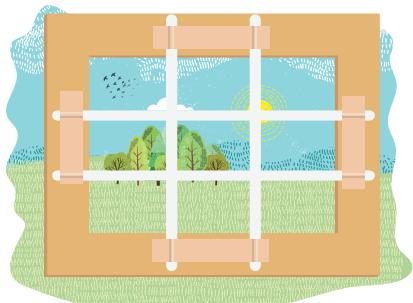


## The Rule of Thirds

The rule of thirds is a method used to create a pleasing arrangement. It states that an image works best when its subjects are composed along imaginary lines or in sections which divide the image into thirds both vertically and horizontally. By arranging the subject of your image in this way, it creates a sense of balance.

Make a simple viewfinder to help frame your composition:

- Cut a cardboard frame.
- Cut four pieces of string, two the same length as the height of your frame and two the length of the width of your frame.
- Place the string onto the frame so the inside is split into a grid of 9 equal sections. Two strings will run from left to right and two strings will run from top to bottom
- Tape in place.



Use your viewfinder to line up the points of interest of your view (trees, plants, architecture etc.) along the lines. Move the viewfinder around to line things up differently and make sketches of the different views before selecting your final composition.

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# Complementary Colours

The three pairs of complementary colours are red and green, blue and orange and yellow and purple. When placed next to each other, complementary colours make each other brighter and more intense.

In landscapes, complementary colours can be used in highlights and shadows to create depth and vibrancy. They can also be used to highlight features, for example a red building will stand out against a green field.

## Capturing the Image

As the weather and light can alter quickly, landscapes often need to be captured in a limited amount of time. Instead of trying to create one perfect image, create a few.

Try using different mediums to capture the same view, such as a pencil sketch, then pastels, then pen and watercolour washes. Choose mediums that allow you to work quickly and don't worry too much about the detail.

Try timing your sketches to encourage you to work faster.

You can then make a more detailed drawing or painting from the series of sketches.



# Relief Painting

Relief printing is a process that involves cutting or drawing into a surface so the raised areas that remain will create the coloured part of an image.

Examples of relief printing include linocut, woodcut and letter press.

Follow the process below to create your own simple relief print.

## Materials Needed

- Pencil
- Pencil, crayon or pen
- Thin polystyrene, e.g. a pizza base or other food packaging
- Tracing paper or baking parchment
- Tape
- Scissors
- Sponge
- Paint or Ink



## Creating a design

- Choose an object or image to draw.
- Draw your chosen object or image focusing just on the lines.
- Draw your object or image more than once.
- Experiment with the size and scale of the drawing and removing and adding detail.

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# Finalising the design

- Choose your favourite sketch to form the base of your design.
- Make sure your final design will fit onto your polystyrene. You may need to cut your paper or polystyrene using scissors.
- Re-draw the image and experiment with making sections of the lines thicker or thinner. Thicker lines will make objects feel more solid where thin lines will create a sense of lightness.
- When you transfer your design to a print, the drawn areas will appear white and the space around them will appear in colour. Changing the thickness of the line can add emphasis to particular areas of your design.

## Preparing the tile

- To create a print from your design, your drawing must transfer to a printing surface, in this case a piece of polystyrene.
- Place the tracing paper or baking parchment over your design and trace a copy of it.
- When done, place the tracing paper over the polystyrene and draw over the design so you make an indentation into the surface. Use tape to keep the drawing in place. Be careful not to break the polystyrene and not to push all the way through. Use your pencil at an angle rather than straight up to make this easier.

## Printing

- Using a sponge, apply a thin layer of paint or ink onto the polystyrene. Be careful not to fill the indented design. If you do get paint in the indentations, you can remove it using a pencil.
- Place the polystyrene paint-side-down onto your paper and use your hand or a rolling pin to apply even pressure over the back. Remove the polystyrene carefully to reveal your first print.
- Repeat the printing process experimenting with different colours and where you place your prints on the page. Try to make a pattern or try overlapping prints for different effects.



# Watercolour

## Materials needed

- Watercolour paints
- Thick paper such as cartridge paper or watercolour paper
- Brushes of different sizes and shapes
- Water pot



## Exploring effects

Watercolour, like other paints and many drawing materials, can be used in different ways to create a variety of effects. Using the watercolour paint and some sheets of paper, experiment with the different effects you can create.

- First, explore the different tones or shades you can create from each colour by adding more water or more paint.
- Next, experiment with different brushes to see how many marks you can make.
- Once you have explored a range of colours and marks, try applying the paint to the paper in different ways; wetting the paper first and then adding the paint on top will create a washy effect where colours will run into each other. This is called wet on wet painting.
- Also try painting a thin background, letting it dry (which won't take too long) and then add colours or patterns over the top. This can be done using more thin layers, or by using a dryer brush and applying paint straight from the tube or block.

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# Washes

The opacity of watercolours can be altered by adding water; the more water you add, the more transparent the paint will become. Thin layers of watery paint are known as washes, and they can be built up to create tone, depth of colour and changes in colour.

- Experiment with layering different washes to create a range of effects. Try layering the same colour and try layering a range of colours to understand how layers of washes work together.
- It is important to let washes dry before adding another layer.

## Working from the Background to the Foreground

In watercolour painting it is essential to start with the background of your painting and build up to the foreground and more detailed areas.

- This is also the same for light and dark; you need to apply the lightest colour first and build up slowly, using multiple layers to the darkest or strongest colour.
- Unlike other paints, the thin, transparent nature of watercolour means it is very difficult to add light colours over bright or dark colours. It also makes it difficult to paint over 'mistakes' or remove detail once it is added.

## Painting the Subject

Once you have experimented with different effects, find an object or view to paint. You could pick something inside your home, in your garden or a view from your window.

- Make some sketches of your view or object on a separate piece of paper first before starting your painting. This will help you to understand the form of what you are painting and create a pleasing composition.
- When you start your painting, you can also use pencil to make a simple light sketch which you can then use the water colours over. This sketch will need to be very light and do not use a rubber as this damages the surface of the paper. When you apply watercolours to a damaged surface it will create unwanted marks.
- You could also try creating a more detailed sketch in pen and using washes over the top. When using pen be careful not to make the paper too wet as the ink will bleed.

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