



BIRDS OF A FEATHER – Printmaking, Texture, Emphasis

Students use a variety of textured materials to make 4 collagraph prints, and then use oil pastels to add areas of emphasis to the composition.

Required Time

180 Minutes

Grade Level

Grade 4 to Grade 6

Subject

Language Arts
Mathematics
Science
Visual Arts

Vocabulary

burnish
collagraph
emphasis
print
printing plate
printmaking
radial balance
shape
texture

Materials

Crayola Scissors

Crayola Tempera Paint

Crayola Oil Pastels - 16 Count

Crayola Marker & Watercolour Paper - 22.9 cm x 30.5 cm (9" x 12")

Crayola Washable No-Run School Glue

Pencils

Tracing Paper

Textured Materials

Tag Manilla Paper or Recycled Cereal Boxes - 22.9 cm x 30.5 cm (9" x 12")

Plastic Tray or Placemat

Soft Paint Roller

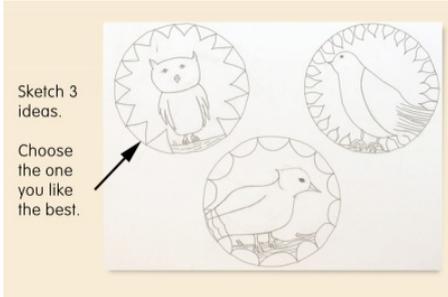
Wooden Spoons

Recycled Newspapers

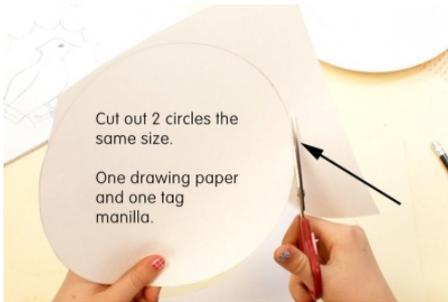
Shop Crayola
Products

Steps

Step One

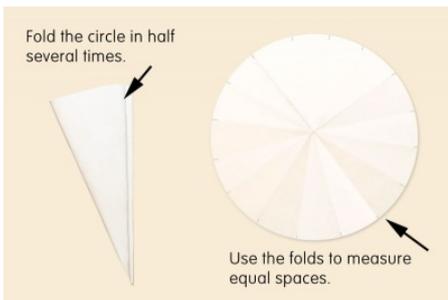


1. Sketch 3 thumbnail ideas.
 - Use a circle for the main shape.
 - Create a pattern of shapes evenly spaced around the outer edge of the circle.
 - Draw a bird to fill the space.
2. Choose the one you like the best.



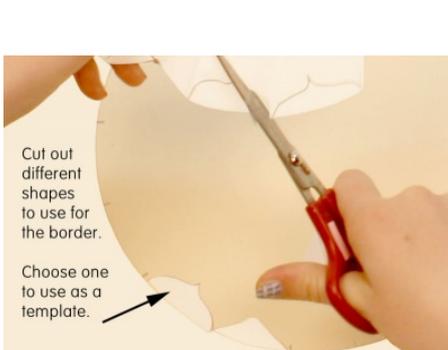
Step Two

1. Cut out 2 circles the same size, 1 drawing paper and 1 tag manilla.
2. Save the tag manilla scraps.



Step Three

1. Fold the drawing paper circle in half, and in half again 3 or 4 times.
2. Open the paper.
3. Place it on top of the tag manilla circle.
4. Make a small mark around the circumference of the circle at each fold.



Step Four

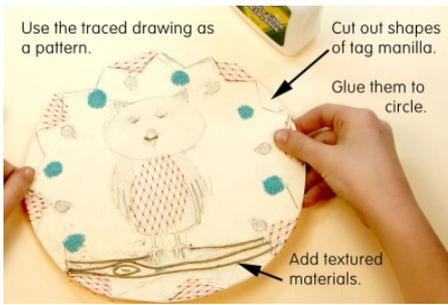
1. Cut out different shapes between the spaces on the folded drawing paper.
2. Place the shapes around the circle to see which border you prefer.
3. Choose the one you like best and use the shape as a template.
4. Trace it repeatedly around the outer edge of the circle using your marks as a guide for even spacing.



Step Five

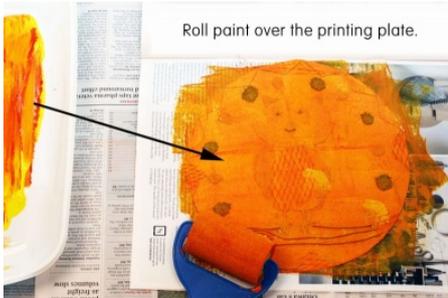
1. Draw your design on the tag manilla circle.
2. Place a piece of onionskin tracing paper on top of your design.
3. Trace the whole thing.

Step Six



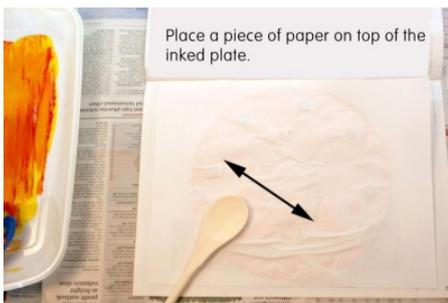
1. Cut out shapes of tag manilla.
2. Glue them to the tag manilla circle.
3. Add textured materials too.
4. Keep adding details until you are satisfied with the effects.
5. Make sure everything is glued down well.
6. This is your **collograph printing plate**.

Step Seven

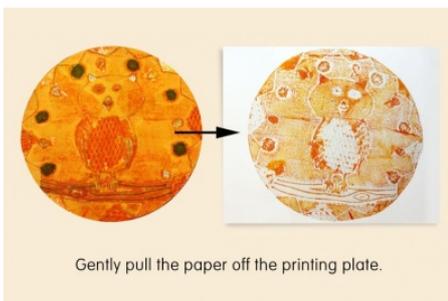


1. Place the printing plate on a page of an open magazine.
2. Use a soft roller to mix two primary colours of tempera paint together in a plastic tray.
3. Roll the paint over the surface of the printing plate.
4. Make sure to apply an even coat.

Step Eight



1. Carefully lift the inked plate off the magazine page.
2. Turn the page over to a new, clean page.
3. Carefully place the inked plate onto the new page.
4. Place a piece of paper on top of the inked plate.
5. Rub over the surface with your hand, then burnish it with a wooden spoon.



Step Nine

1. Gently pull the paper off the printing plate.



Step Ten

1. Once the prints are dry, draw over them with oil pastels to create areas of emphasis.

Learning Goals

Students will be able to:

- create 4 collagraph prints of a favourite bird;
- use oil pastels to add emphasis and detail to the prints;
- use shape and texture to create radial balance;
- demonstrate technical accomplishment and creativity;
- support their ideas with evidence found in the works.

Extensions

Have students:

- make large, abstract collagraph prints using different combinations of found materials and textures;
- combine their prints in a cooperative class mural;
- add drawn marks over the prints using oil pastels and other drawing mediums to embellish the final project;
- select a section of the mural to focus on;
- write 5 words that come to mind;
- use the words as part of a free verse poem that reflects their feelings about what they see in the mural.

Prepare

1. Download and display the *Colour, Shape, Texture and Emphasis posters* available on this website.
2. Prior to this lesson you may want to have students explore the **Colour Wheel** using the lesson plan available on this website.
3. Prior to this lesson you may want to have students explore relief printmaking with found objects using the **Exploring Lines** lesson plan available on this website.
4. Gather and make available books about collagraph printmaking, for example, *Complete Collagraph: The Art and Technique of Printmaking from Collage Plates*, by Clara Romano; *Collagraphs and Mixed-Media Printmaking*, by Brenda Hartill and Richard Clarke; and *Print with Collage and Stitch: Techniques for Mixed-Media Printmaking*, by Val Holmes.
5. Prior to this lesson have students research the characteristics of birds and choose their favourite bird as a subject for further inquiry.
6. Create a sample collagraph.

Introduction

1. Show students the print you have created.
2. Ask them to discuss what they notice about the print and to explain how they think it was made.
3. Talk about the shapes, textures and radial balance.
4. Show students the collagraph printing plate you used to make the prints.
5. Discuss how it was made.
6. Place it beside the print and use a venn diagram to compare them.
7. Introduce the challenge.

Activities

The Challenge

1. Create 4 collagraph prints of a favourite bird.
2. Use oil pastels to add emphasis and detail to the prints.
3. Use shape and texture to create radial balance.
4. Demonstrate technical accomplishment and creativity.
5. Support your ideas with evidence found in the works.

The Process

1. Make sure everyone understands the challenge.
2. Establish success criteria with your students. For example,
I know I am successful when I have:
 - created 4 collagraph prints of a bird
 - used texture and shape to create radial balance
 - mixed 2 colours to make a new one
 - added details and emphasis with oil pastels
 - kept the paper in good condition
3. Guide students through the steps outlined in this lesson plan.
4. Encourage them to share and expand on each others' ideas as they explore the materials.
5. Demonstrate how to cut out two pieces of paper at the same time.
6. Remind students that lines and patterns will be created by the spaces left between shapes and the differences in levels of paper and materials.
7. Observe students as they work.
8. Provide individual assistance and encouragement.

Sharing

1. Once all the prints are complete ask students to share them in partners or small groups.
Ask them to:
 - *Look closely at the prints and how they are made.*
 - *Share thoughts about the work.*
 - *Talk about how shape and texture contribute to the overall effectiveness of the image.*
 - *Discuss the use of drawing with oil pastels over the prints.*
 - *Talk about what was difficult about making the print and why.*
 - *Tell what was satisfying about making the print and why.*
2. Ask some students to share their ideas with the whole class.
3. Display the prints so students can view them as a body of work throughout the next few weeks.

Assessment

1. Observe students as they work – thoughtful focus, discriminating, seeking more information, elaborating, experimenting.
2. Observe students as they discuss their artworks – speaks with a clear voice, looks at audience while speaking, points to areas in the prints, provides accurate information, answers questions from the audience effectively.
3. Observe students as they listen – looks at presenter, asks effective questions, supports ideas with evidence found in the artwork.
4. Use a checklist to track progress. (Downloads - Collagraph_tracking.sheet.pdf)
5. Have students use the self-assessment form to evaluate their work. (Download - Collagraph_self-assessment.pdf)