



CREATIONS

For students in 3rd & 4th years

2-Week Collage

Overview: Students create a larger and more complex collage, with an emphasis on composition and color scheme.

You should create 3 or 4 (or more!) thumbnail layout sketches, to work on the placement of your shapes. Thumbnail sketches should be no wider than 2" on the longest side. These are not about details, but only the size and placement of the Big Shapes.

Remember your composition needs:

Emphasis - The most important spot

Balance - Asymmetrical is usually best for this project

Harmony - This is achieved mostly by having a strong color scheme using 4 or 5 colors and with shapes or subject matter that look good together. With 5 colors, make at least 3 of them closely related on the color wheel, ie: magenta, red, and red-orange.

One of the most important things to do in this project (and every artwork), is to try out several completely different design ideas. Then you can try some slight variations of an idea you like best. Only by experimenting will you know if you have found the best solution. You can always go back to you first idea if it was best, but you'll almost always improve as you try new things.

Consider your subject matter. Even if you want it to be abstract, taking real life and then simplifying it creates much more interesting shapes and images. For this collage, you'll use an entire sheet of watercolor paper for your background, and another sheet for your various shapes in more colors.

1. Find examples and figure out your basic color scheme.
2. Mix acrylic to create your background color and cover one sheet of watercolor paper.
3. Mix acrylics to create 3 or 4 more colors, painting them in various areas on the second sheet of watercolor paper. If you want some long shapes, make sure you create a long color area for them. Set aside to dry. Make sure your name is on them.
4. Draw ideas and compositions as thumbnail layout sketches. Make at least 5 or 6.
5. If papers become dry, go ahead and begin cutting; drawing with your scissors.

Finish the project next week, or if you're a fast worker, create two works that go together.

Instructions

Color Cutouts

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1. Choose one of the animals from the references that you haven't used before. Then draw the animal as large as possible in your sketch book using charcoal. Draw it at least 3 times, and up to 5, to learn the shapes.
2. There are 3 choices of medium to create the finished work.
 1. **Watercolors** on watercolor paper
 - Instead of using the pencil to create the shadows and painting over them, advanced students should create all of the shadows using *only* the watercolor.
 2. **Acrylic** on canvas
 - Work dark to light, and feel free to create a thin layer of color as an underpainting, such as a brown or bright red.
 3. **Graphite** pencil - very detailed
 - The shading technique is very important, and should be done in hatch shading with as little obvious pencil strokes as possible.
3. Draw guidelines on **watercolor** paper, **canvas**, or good drawing **paper**.
4. Paint or draw the animal in your preferred medium, paying special attention to the shadows.