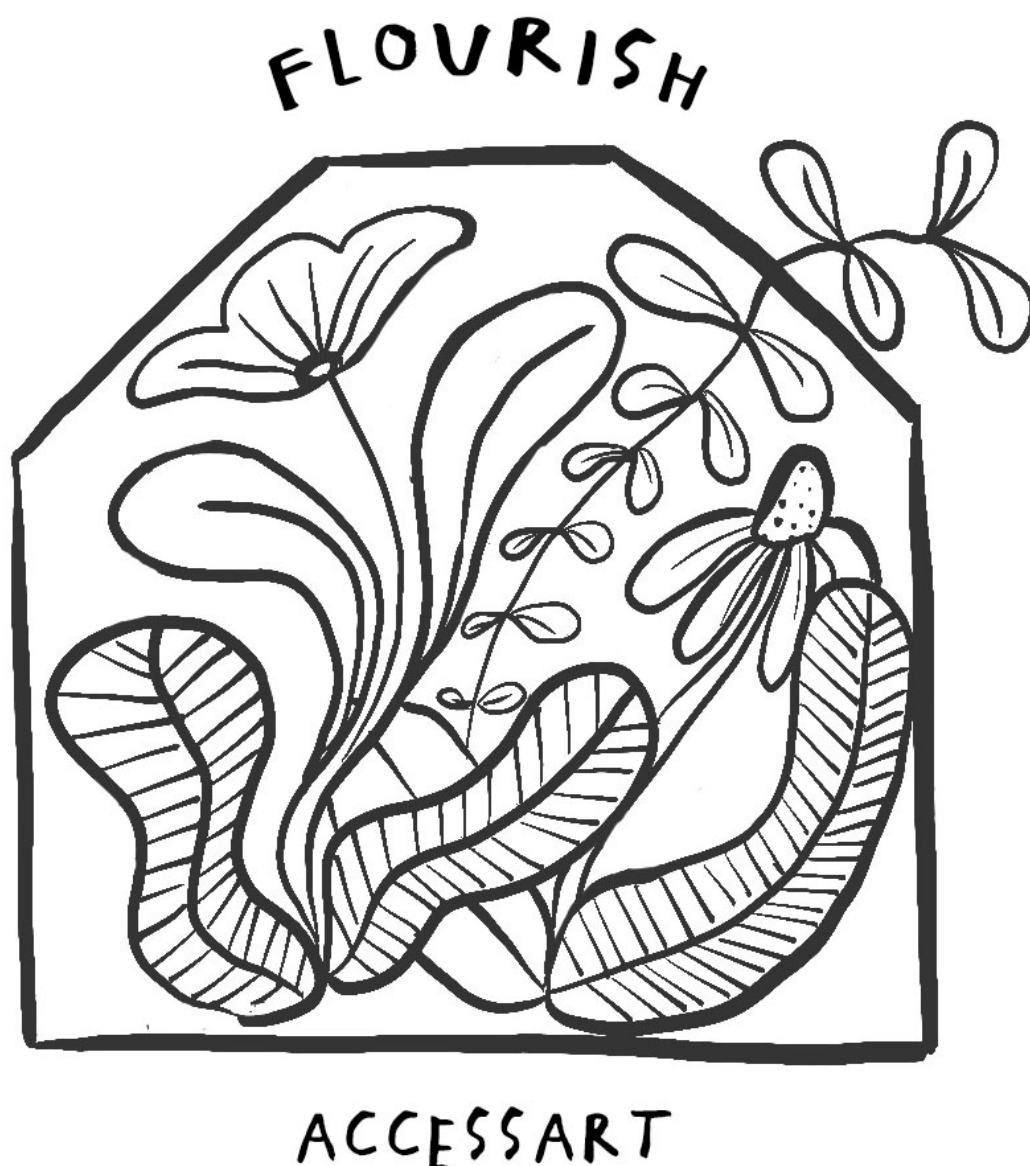


AccessArt Art Week 2025: Flourish – The Activities

Explore the Flourish Art Week
Activities!

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If you are thinking about taking part in the AccessArt Art Week 2025, you can find the recommended activities below.

These have been chosen around the theme of Flourish – helping us all celebrate growth.

Take your time to choose activities which will appeal to your pupils and teachers. Try to resist overfilling the week, but do ensure you are familiar with the preliminary drawing and making activities as you can use these to extend experiences within the week.

Happy browsing!



Flourish: Making Sketchbooks

It's a great idea to make sketchbooks specifically for the art week, so that all sketchbook content can be gathered together in one place. These books then make a great record of the whole week, which can be displayed and then given to the pupils to be taken home.

Think about having the whole school making sketchbooks on day one of your art week as a morning or afternoon activity. The energy of the session will set the art week off to a great pace and it's nice when everyone can do the same activity.

Even better, if you request pupils collect and save recycled cardboard and paper the weeks prior to art week, they can then help contribute the materials they need to make their sketchbooks at very little cost.

Choose one or both sketchbook-making activities from the ones below.

make an elastic band sketchbook



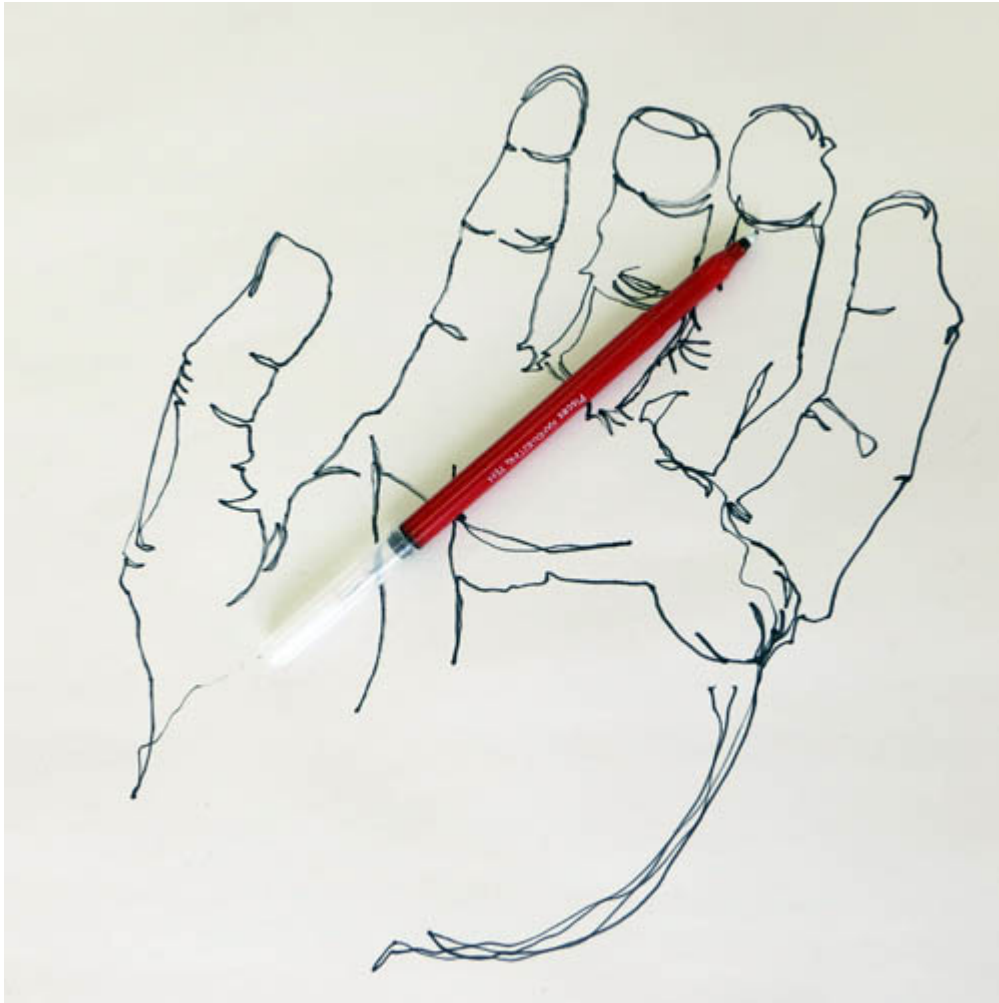
Elastic band sketchbooks are cheap to make, and easy to personalise. The whole school can make one of these sketchbooks

from recycled materials and use it throughout the art week. Ages 5 to 11

Make a cardboard sketchbook



In this resource, you'll be shown two simple ways of making a sketchbook from cardboard. Make these sketchbooks with ages 8 to 11



Flourish: Preliminary Exploring Drawing

Throughout the week, use drawing exercises to create energy, develop skills, open minds and enliven projects.

It's important to realise that the drawing exercises you choose to do can stand alone. They don't have to line up closely with the main projects you choose (although of course, they can).

By interspersing the days with drawing activities in sketchbooks, you will help vary energy levels and keep children engaged. Think carefully about

why you are choosing a particular exercise: is it to develop skills, introduce new materials, calm children, or boost their energy levels. Most exercises can be adapted to suit all ages.

The drawing exercises below have been chosen because they can be adapted particularly well to suit the theme of Flourish – please see the guidance under each image below. Choose from the following activities, and try to include one drawing activity a day during the art week.

Continuous Line drawing



[Adapt: use this classic drawing exercise](#)

to help pupils look closely at plants as they draw

Making a scroll drawing



Adapt: find foliage from around the school grounds to draw in the classroom

dancing to art



Adapt: introduce some energy into the classroom and invite children to respond to paintings of nature with their bodies

finding marks made by artists



Adapt: use this drawing exercise to help children explore how they can use experimental marks in their drawings

Flora & Fauna: Source Material & Conversation prompts



Adapt: use these visual prompts to develop sketchbook work

mark-making and sound: part three



Adapt: use found foliage and explore how rhythm can give observational drawings a sense of flow

EXPLORE THE BRUSHWORK OF VAN GOGH & CEZANNE



Adapt: use sketchbooks to explore how artists create a sense of profusion and growth in their paintings

Wildflower Meadow: source material



Adapt: use these visual prompts to develop sketchbook work



Flourish: Preliminary Exploring Through Making Activities

In addition to drawing exercises, we can use short making activities to help open minds and provide opportunities for pupils to develop skills in manipulating materials.

Like the drawing exercises, these activities don't have to be linked to a particular project. Check the suggested adaptations below to help you incorporate some of these activities into your art week.

patterns with nature



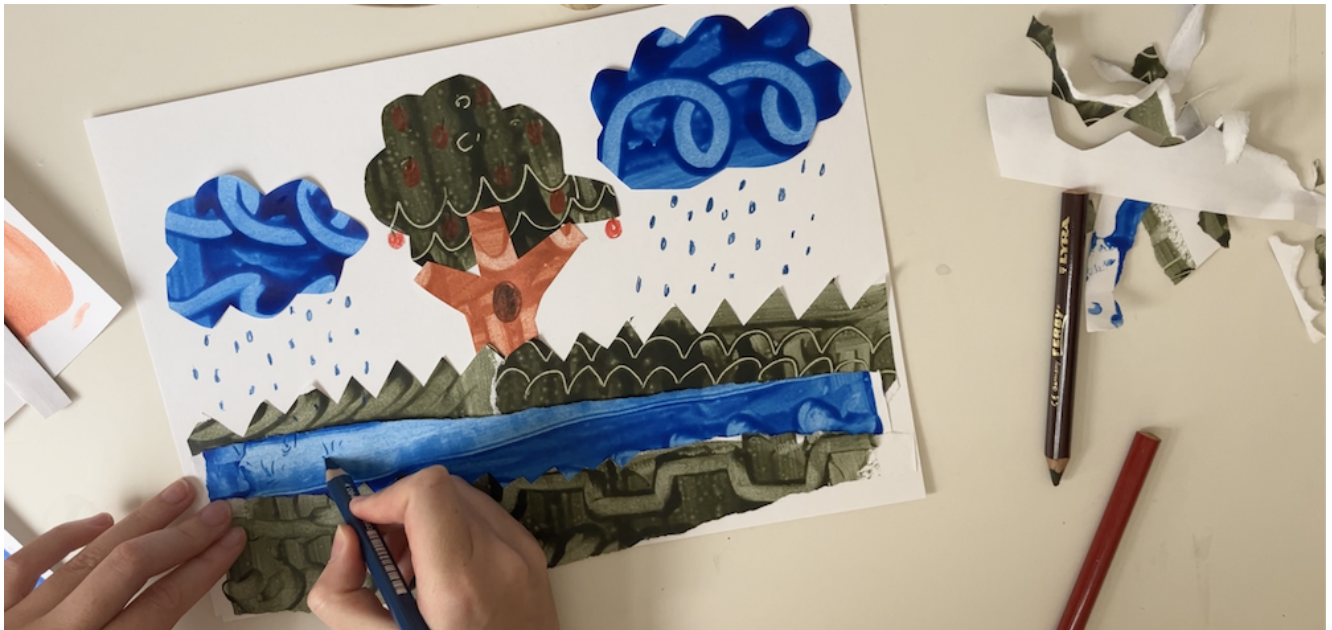
Adapt: use this exercise to encourage pupils to be curious about the natural environment around them. Use sketchbooks to record

Collaging with Wax Crayons



Adapt: a great sketchbook activity for all abilities – give pupils plenty of time to explore and gather their objects outside

imaginary landscapes



Adapt: Keep it playful and encourage conversation about what they could be!

Roots & Shoots



Adapt: enjoy this sculptural challenge to help free imaginations and empower children to transform materials



Flourish: Main Projects

The following projects explore drawing and making and can be used across different age groups. All projects will be enriched by the skills and experiences practised through the exercises above.

Choose projects that you think will appeal to teachers and pupils! There is no right or wrong choice. Allow for a relaxed, exploratory pace – making full use of a collapsed timetable to enable the pupils to explore different materials and more space than perhaps your usual timetabled lessons allow. Be prepared for creative chaos and energy, tidying throughout the week when you need to bring the energy back to a more focussed approach.

Don't forget to build time into your projects for talking, reflection and even photography and documentation if you have tablets which the pupils can use.

We recommend one or two projects per class for a full art week, depending on your pupils, timetable and projects chosen. You can always extend a project by doing more of the drawing and making exercises above.

Wildflower meadows



Working in pairs or small groups to
combine drawing, printmaking and painting
primal painting



Explorative, sensory painting for all ages

Painted and sculptural plant pots



Create a whole school display of joyous pots and plants

NEVER-ENDING LANDSCAPES



Use this drawing project with smaller groups of children to create drawings which can encourage a sense of playful exploration

Drawing & Making Flowers



Create a flower bed of sculptural flowers

Concertina landscapes



Make beautiful books inspired by real or imagined landscapes

painting a rainbow forest



This is a great activity if you are able to work outside! Be inventive and think how you can adapt the subject matter to suit your pupils

Birds in Trees



This project gives the class the opportunity to work individually and then for their drawings to come together into a communal artwork

sculptural environments inspired by hockney



work collaboratively to create exciting landscape based imagery which develops from 2d to 3d

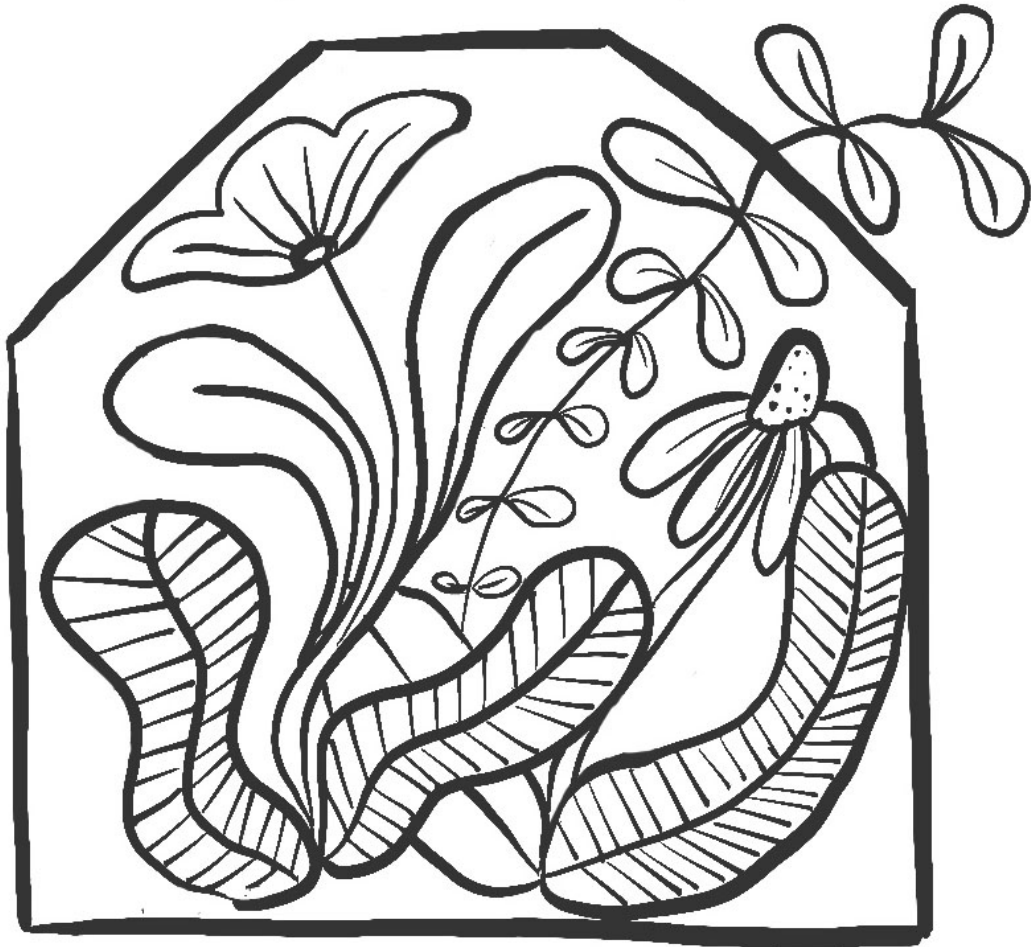
Making a treehouse



[For older children, more confident teachers or smaller groups, this is a fantastic sculptural challenge which children always love](#)

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FLOURISH



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