# Exploring the Sculptural Possibilities of Plastic Milk Bottles

#### By Andrea Butler

The plastic milk bottle is a flexible, versatile material that can be manipulated to create textured/decorative surfaces and shaped to make 3D forms. Textile and manipulation techniques such as coiling, fringing, knotting and sewing can be applied to create a variety of forms and textures. Many of the techniques were used to make the objects in this resource: One Material: Sea Sculptures from Plastic Bottles.

The processes shown below can also be applied to explore the decorative and construction potential of other materials.



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## Sensory Spaces: An Autism-Friendly Project

#### To Connect



At the beginning of the project it was important to take time getting used to each other, the learning space and the surrounding environment. Below is a list of considerations you may find helpful to use in your own learning spaces. Be aware of the daily sounds, smells and other textures of life in your learning space; a constant humming noise or flickering light may be stressful for a child with autism. Allow time for everyone to feel their way in the space; connections may be made through the use of different senses and body parts.

#### To Conceal



During the six week project, the group explored different themes and actions, some of these were displayed through learning schemas. In week 2 we experimented with different ways to conceal ourselves and objects; schemas such as enveloping and enclosure were exhibited by the group.

### To Colour



Two of the sessions explored the theme of colour. The first was rather abstract, I asked questions such as; What does colour smell like? What does colour feel like?

For a child on the autistic spectrum, a question like this may be confusing, some autistic people think and understand literally. So instead of directing these questions at the children, I answered and speculated on them myself. These abstract questions became vehicles for the workshops documented below.

#### To Construct



In my final post on the project, I want to reflect on the theme of To Construct... looking at the different ways we constructed during the project. Please remember this is a personal and artistic reflection, based on the ideas I presented and the (emotional and physical) reactions and responses of the children and their families, who inspired changes and the development of the project as we experienced it.

### To Conceal....

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### Explore how Linda Bell creates sculptures

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# The Winter Tree Challenge: A Combined Sculpture & Drawing Project!

This post shares an hour long session at the AccessArt Art Lab, in which the young teenagers (12 and 13 years) worked on two projects simultaneously: a shared winter forest drawing in charcoal, and a sculpture challenge to make a winter tree. The time and material constraints resulted in an energetic and inventive session. By Paula Briggs

# Making an Ink and Wax Village with Pupils in Mansfield

## **Explore and Draw**

# Show Me What You See: Drawing Inspired by Anglo Saxon Architecture

# Sculptures with Personality, Inspired by Anglo Saxon Houses

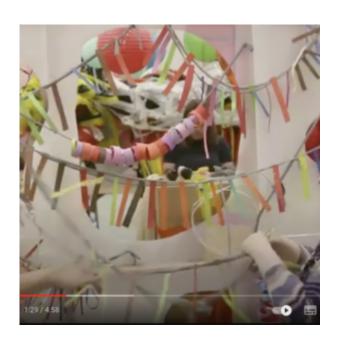
This resource shares a 3 hour session with Year 6 children from Barton Church of England Primary School. Children were studying the Anglo Saxons and we thought it would be a good opportunity to explore making skills.

Led by Paula Briggs, children to "make sculptures inspired by" an Anglo Saxon Village.

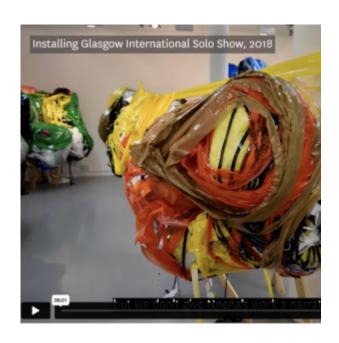
### To Connect...

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Explore artist Nnena Kalu

# Making a Lyre Inspired by the Ancient Greeks

Here, Portia, aged ten and in year five, shows, step by step, how she approached a creative homework to learn more about the Ancient Greeks.

# Wax Resist Autumn Leaves by Rosie James

# See the Resource Used in Schools...











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# Sculpture Project Inspired by Egyptian Wall Painting

This resource shares a project which explored mould making, casting and painting in the creation of a sculpture inspired

by Egyptian wallpainting, in particular Nebamun hunting in the marshes, Nebamun's tomb-chapel, which can be seen in the British Museum, London

The project can be adapted for use in KS 2 and 3, and can be used to accompany a study of Egyptian Art / Hieroglyphics.

## Making a Pocket Gallery

This post shares an idea devised by Anne-Louise Quinton in which she enables children and teenagers to revisit the "ordinary" and resee it's potential. The activity is a great way not only to inspire children as artists and curators, but also to introduce them to a whole range of concepts and vocabulary. It would be a great activity to use in a museum and gallery education context, as well as the classroom.

# Continuous Line Drawing Exercise

Many thanks to AccessArt Young Artist Alex Tunstall for composing the music for the video in the Continuous Line Drawing Resource.

## Style and Aesthetic

# Balancing Observational & Experimental Drawing

Teaching for the Journey not the Outcome

Layered Landscapes: Working in Mixed Media on Location with Kittie Jones

### Fabulous Fish

Fabulous Fish was a Brilliant Makers workshop, for year four pupils, led by Sheila Ceccarelli, raising ocean awareness at

Ridgefield Primary School, Cambridge.