

An Exploration of Pandora's Box

By [Rachel Thompson](#)

In this post, AccessArt team member and Artist Rachel Thompson goes on a creative journey exploring the Ancient Greek Myth Pandora's Box. The exploration involved reading and discussing the story, designing and creating a clay box inspired by Ancient Greek vases, distressing fabrics and seeing how they move to air rushing past and finally drawing imaginative creatures emerging from the box.

This extended project took place over 3 sessions of approximately 1 hour each, with time left in between for the clay box to dry. The project could be complimented by some drama or history based activities that further explore the text and its themes.

This first activity focussed on Pandora's Box itself, and re creating one using air dry clay and paint, inspired by the colours and patterns seen in Ancient Greek Amphoras.



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Visual Arts Planning: Clay

Which Artists: Ava Jolliffe

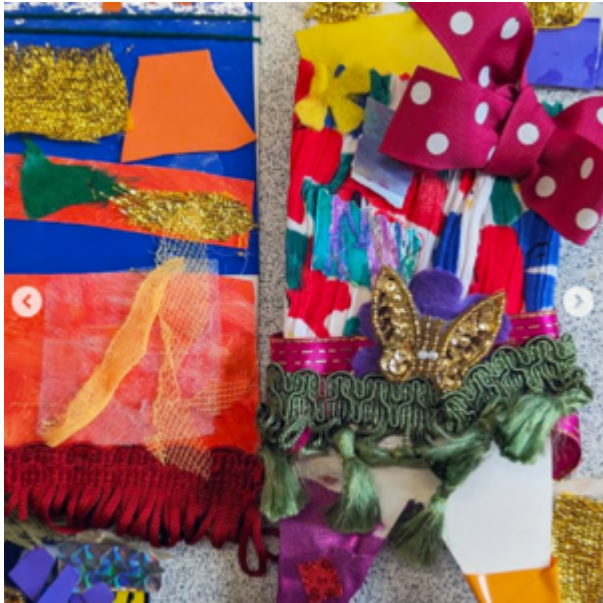
Which Artists: 2B or Not 2B

**Sketchbook Journey At
Haslingfield Primary School**

Creativity Medals

See the Resource Used in
Schools...





What We Like About This Resource...

“The sentiment behind this resource idea is lovely and it provides an opportunity to really develop some fine motor skills as well as independence of approach. Taking ownership of the medal design means the sense of achievement is heightened beyond the children just being given one. You can

really imagine the positive energy that would surround this activity within a classroom, with each child working on a shared project but embarking on their own creative journey.” – *Rachel, AccessArt*

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Pathway: Playful Making



[Featured in the 'Playful Making' pathway](#)

Talking Points: Introduction to sculpture

Sculpture.mp4

1



Clay Art Medals



Talking Points: Nnena Kalu



Talking Points: Linda BELL



Making Musical Instruments

What We Like About This Resource...

“It’s great to see music being explored in this way, and combining it with making creates a really interesting immersive project. This activity would work well as part of an extended project looking at musical instruments around the world and some of the natural materials they are made from.” – *Rachel, AccessArt*

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Pathway: Music and art



[This is featured in the ‘Music and Art’ pathway](#)

talking points: wassily Kandinsky



drawing source material: orchestras



A Cheerful Orchestra



Talking Points: Linda BELL



Talking Points: Nnena Kalu



Touch Wood

What We Like About This Resource...

“You can get a real sense of the environment in this post and how this could provide so much inspiration for creative projects. We are aware there the challenges to exploring the outdoors when many schools are in towns and cities. A way around this could be to have a regular collection of natural objects within the classroom and using them as a stimulus to respond creatively in sketchbooks or in extended projects” – *Andrea, AccessArt*

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[A Passion for Woodworking](#)



Visual Arts PLanning: Tees, Forest and Landscapes

Which Artists: Jason Line

What We Like About This Resource...

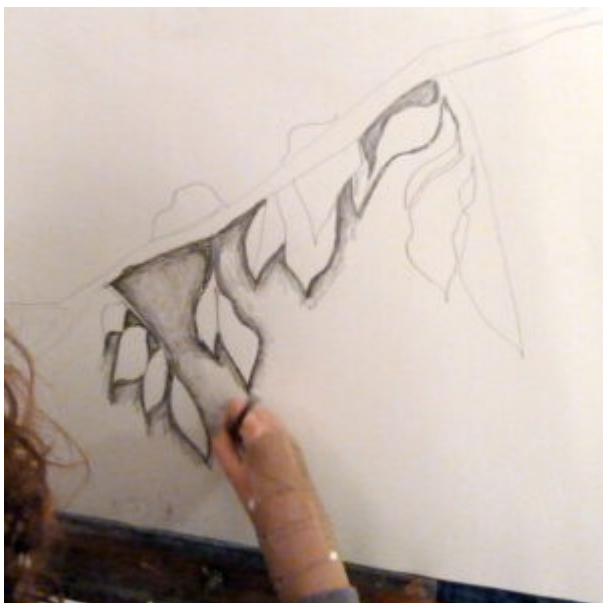
“It’s always so inspiring to hear how different artists work and we particularly like the detailed references Jake makes to his process – marking out the composition using neutral tones; adding and taking away compositional elements and gradually building in more colour and detail. Delivering a still life session in a classroom could begin with

this process and encourage the practice of looking at positive and negative space. Some suggested resources below also touch on this". – *Rachel, AccessArt*

You Might Also Like...



[Tackling Still Life for Children](#)



Drawing Negative Space



Visual Arts Planning: Still Life

Which Artists: Su Blackwell

What We Like About This Resource...

"It's really interesting to hear how Su's career path evolved organically, and how experimenting with different disciplines such as ceramics and sculpture whilst studying Textiles at the RCA began her journey towards paper craft and books. We really like how the small book sculptures

inspired the larger scale set designs for The Snow Queen. They transfer so effectively to the stage and you can imagine how engaging it would be for a young audience to recognise letters and words on lampposts and other scenic elements". – *Rachel, AccessArt*

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[Creating a Book World](#)



Sketch Set Design Models



Set Design for Primary Aged Children

Henry Moore's Shelter Drawings

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Pathway: Exploring Form Through Drawing



[This is featured in the 'Exploring Form Through Drawing' pathway](#)

Watercolour Washes Inspired by the Tapestries of Henry Moore



Which Artists: Rachel Parker

What We Like About This Resource

“It’s really interesting to see the combination of hand and digital work in Rachel’s work, and particularly how her hand stitched embroidery is scanned before being used to create patterned products. We love that lots of Rachel’s work begins in sketchbooks and how this really underpins her creative process. For children in school, learning to utilise a sketchbook and discover their potential through drawing and mapping ideas is invaluable. We have a whole Sketchbook Journey section on the AccessArt website (linked below) which explores this in more detail”. – *Rachel, AccessArt.*

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Pathway: Exploring pattern

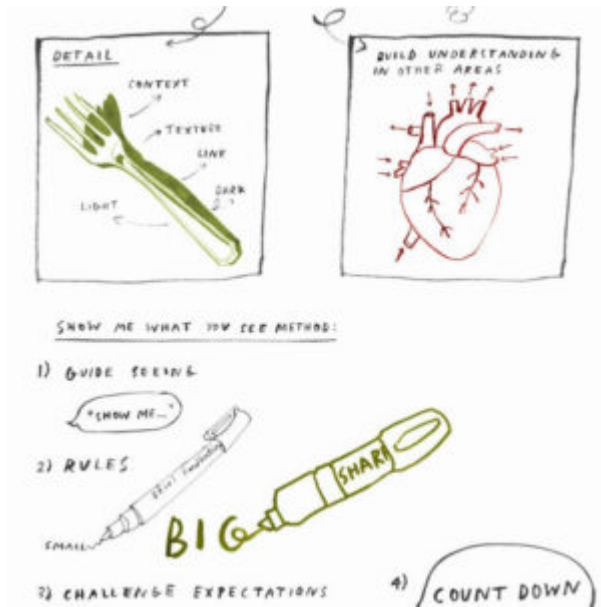


This is featured in the 'Exploring Pattern' pathway

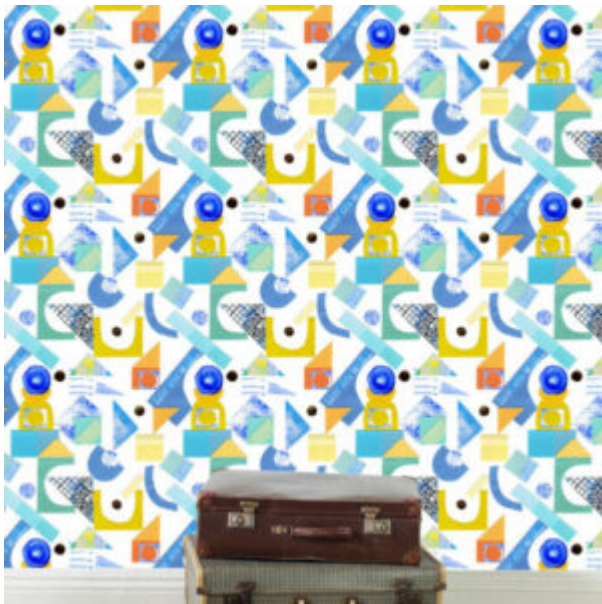
using sketchbooks to make visual notes



Show me what you see



Inspired by Rachel Parker



Sewn Treasure Box



Felt and Embroidery Sets



Which Artists: Cas Holmes

What We Like About This Resource...

“The sense of journey and feeling of movement is such an interesting part of Cas’ textile work here. We love how location and place is communicated through the variety of fluid and meandering textile marks used. Cas’ Romani background as well as early experience living in Japan make for a rich cultural backdrop to her work. The themes here could be explored in the classroom by asking children to use memories of places they’ve visited to produce a creative response using fabrics and mixed media” – *Rachel, AccessArt*

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[Draw Your Home](#)



Working With and In the Landscape



Landscape Sculptures

Working with Dogwood

What We Like About This Resource...

“It’s lovely to see a resource that centres on a particular material and the scope it offers. I particularly like how the dogwood is used here to make wooden beads. This idea could be developed further by looking at how wood has been used to make jewelry throughout history and within many different cultures.” – *Rachel, AccessArt.*

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[A Passion for Woodworking](#)



Woodland Exploration



Visual Arts Planning: Trees, Forests and Landscape

Which Artists: Toby Pritchard

What We Like About This Resource...

“It’s a really positive thing for an artist to share the concept of the creative journey. At AccessArt we believe journeys are pretty important and we are pleased to show this in action through Toby Pritchard’s post. We particularly like the anthropomorphic element, and how this really brings life to Toby’s work.” – *Rachel, AccessArt*

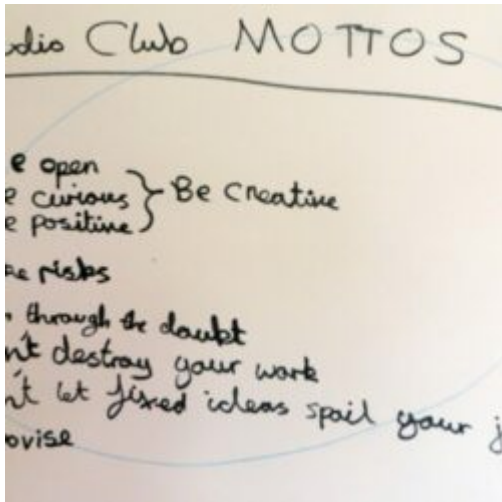
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[Anthropomorphic Animal Paintings](#)



Exploring Animation



Teaching for the Journey not the Outcome

Dropped Cone Sculptures with Julia Rigby

What We Like About This Resource...

“There’s a really fun element to this activity which is you can imagine all children really enjoying! The idea of food on large scale is a great starter for a sculpture project and an early exploration of working in 3D. What’s really positive to see in this project is how the children used their sketchbooks to design their ice creams prior to working in 3D. They then had the opportunity to re visit and refine their ideas as they worked. This provides a solid foundation for the concept of design development and design through making- both of which underpin any visual arts or design project or profession. For more support on how to develop sketchbook practice in your setting please see our [Sketchbook Journey](#)” – *Rachel, AccessArt*

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Art Club Cafe



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What We Like About This Resource...

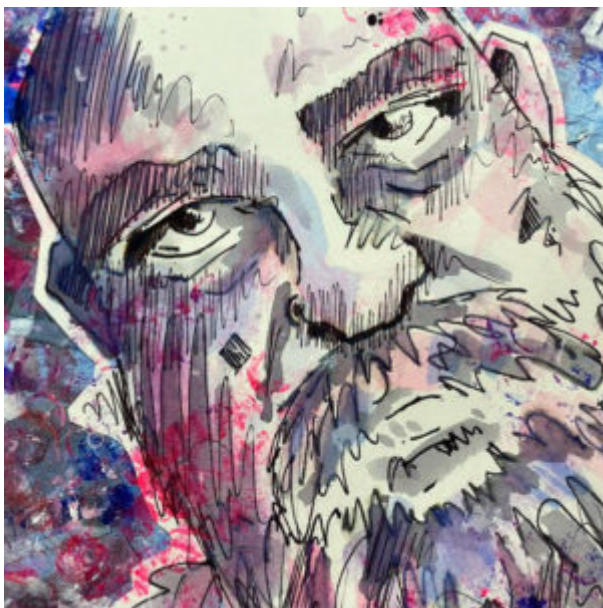
"We're really grateful to Jake from Draw Brighton for sharing this activity which became so well received during lockdown 2020.

This is the perfect reminder that wherever we are in the digital or physical world, we have our eyes, hands and faces, and drawing provides a wonderful opportunity to come together in small

groups to make sketches of each other. Use this activity as an ice breaker before a workshop, or as a transition activity between classes or events. Thank you Jake!" *Paula, AccessArt*

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Pathway: Exploring Identity



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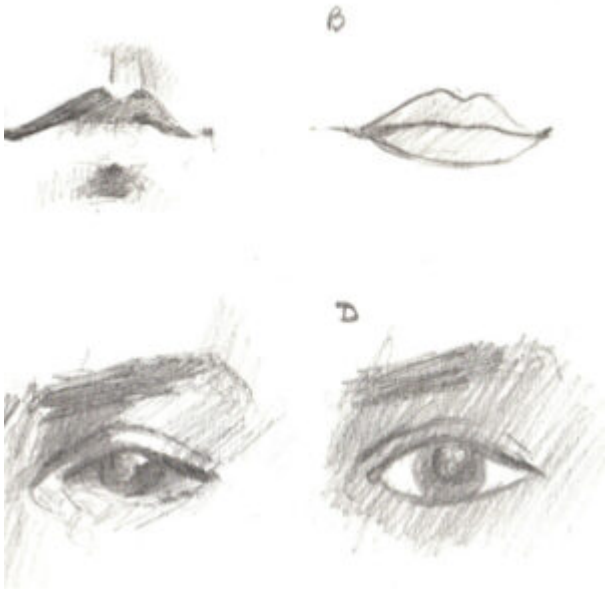
Talking Points: Njideka Akunyili Crosby



Making Physical or Digital Layered Portraits



Introduction to Portraits



Exploring Portraits in Graphite, Collage and Clay



Which Artists: We are out of

Gabby Savage-Dickson: Etching

What We Like About This Resource...

“These are such beautiful and evocative images – certain to inspire. There is a lot of potential for schools to explore Gabby’s work as a way to inspire pupils to create their own imagery inspired by literature, or inspired by imaginative writing by pupils.

Although etching might not be particularly accessible to many schools, there are low tech ways of approaching the process (see below) which mean pupils can explore similar ways of working in the classroom.” *Paula, AccessArt*

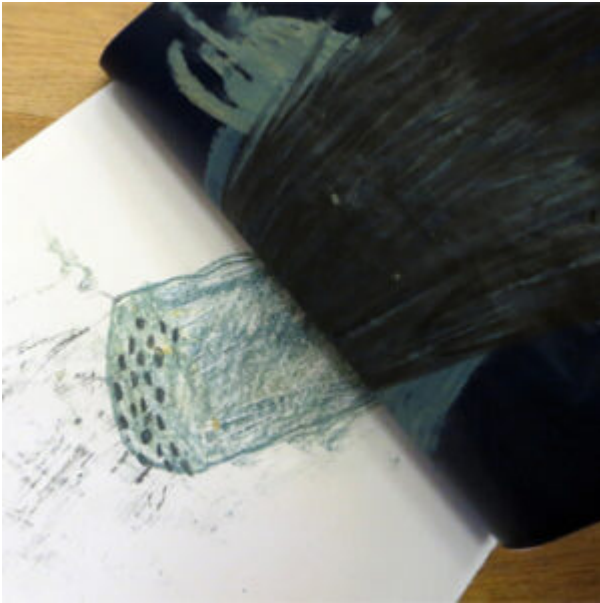
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Dry Point Etching



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Gabby Savage-Dickson: Felting & Embroidering Sets

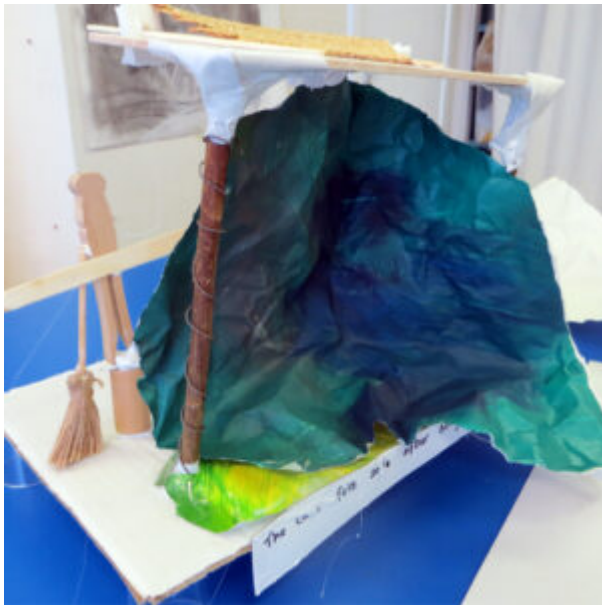
What We Like About This Resource...

“It’s really interesting to see how Gabby works across the different disciplines of textiles and illustration in her work, and you can see how the principles of each are present in these beautifully made felt sets. We enjoyed learning how she went between planning and making – showing

that the process of creating isn't completely linear, and that the journey of idea creation can happen through sketching ideas, but also through making itself" – *Andrea, AccessArt*

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Pathway: Set Design



[This is featured in the 'Set Design' pathway](#)

talking points: negative space by tiny inventions



[Explore the work of animation directors Max Porter and Ru Kuwahata.](#)

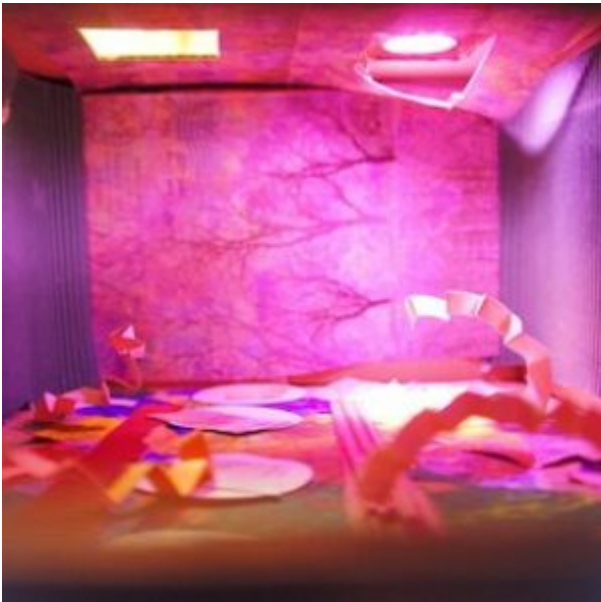
Making Mini Food



Stitched Homes



Mini World Light Boxes



Rosie Hurley: Esio Trot

What We Like About This Resource...

“Rosie highlights the importance of embracing a wide variety of interests and ways of working into our wider creative practice, resulting in wonderfully rich and very personal explorations and outcomes.

There are so many clues in this resource for teachers. Look out for how Rosie slows down her whole process into a series of interconnected stages, which weave in and out of each other. These include time for research (collecting and observing), analysing and revisiting, drawing, making and finally documenting.” *Paula, AccessArt*

You Might Also like...

Pathway: Telling Stories through drawing and making



This is featured in the 'Drawing Stories Through Drawing and Making' pathway

Pathway: Set Design



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Gabby Savage-Dickson: Felting & Embroidering Sets



Year 3 Roald Dahl & Quentin Blake Homework



Draw, Paint, Build, Make: Gallery Project

