

# **Making Sea Sculptures at Culford School, Suffolk**

Artists Andrea Butler and Sheila Ceccarelli inspire year three pupils to invent their own sculptural sea creatures using simple wrapping and binding techniques with scrap store materials.

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# **Make a Sketchbook, Ideas Book or Travel Journal this Summer!**

AccessArt's Experimental Drawing Class worked during their final session this term, on making their own books for summer ideas (and delightfully their parents joined in at the end of the session and made their own books too)

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# **Teenagers Make Prompts to Overcome White Page Syndrome**

Fabulously inspired teenagers at AccessArt's Experimental Drawing Class made prompts to help each other overcome the 'white page syndrome'.

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# **Printmaking with Salvaged Sticky Back Aluminium Foil, Mixed Media and Cardboard**

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# **Street Drawing: Exploring Vanishing Points with Masking Tape**

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# **Animal Sculpture and Collage with Students at Philip Southcote School, Surrey**

Exploring 'identity' by interpreting the characteristics, habitats and personalities of animals through making sculpture and collage with scrap store materials.

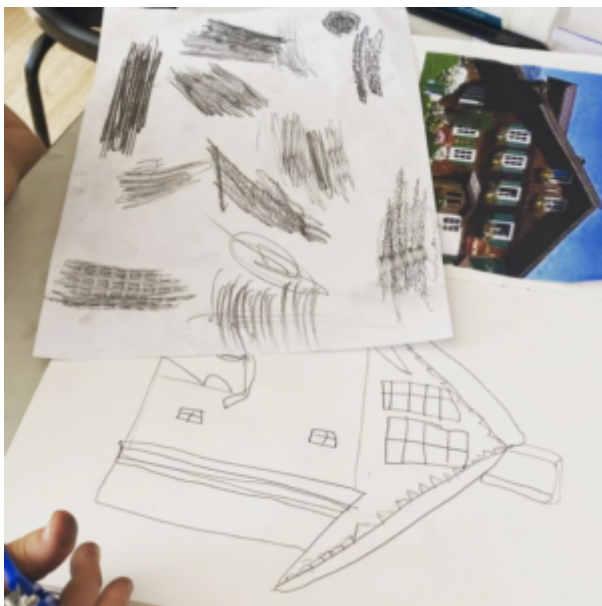
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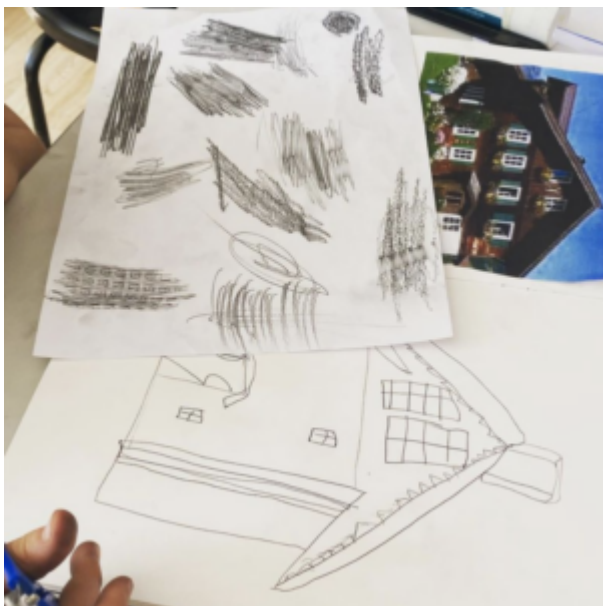
# Teenagers Make Small Sculptures: Exploring Felt-Making and Transforming Materials

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Houses from Around the World:  
International Day at  
Monkfield Primary School

See This Resource Used In  
Schools...







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## Exploring Materials: Merino Wool and Water and Making Felt

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# **Exploring Materials: Plaster and String**

As part of a series of workshops for AccessArt's Experimental Drawing Class on exploring materials, artist Rachel Wooller led a session on exploring plaster and string.

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# **Exploring Materials: Paper and Water and Making Paper**

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# **Exploring Materials: Clay and Water**

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# **Gothic Revival: Craft Techniques for the Class Room Inspired by the Leach Firm of**

# Cambridge

## How to Make a Tessellated Design



## ‘Pouncing’: A Simple Technique to Transfer Patterns onto Plaster Tablets



## Gilding and a ‘Touch of Gold’



# Painting on glass



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## The Firm

In 1862 Frederick Leach started F. R. Leach & Sons, artist-decorators who worked with the best-known Victorian architects/designers including William Morris, Charles Kempe and George Bodley.

Their expertise led the firm to work on ecclesiastical and civic arts, crafts and decoration as well as domestic architecture and interiors.

If their workshops could talk they would have told of stained glass being designed, painted and fired; stone statues carved; wooden decorations turned; panels chiselled, decorated and gilded; furniture crafted; metal forged; and tiles painted. In fact they could create anything that a well-decorated house, church or college would need.

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## Pouncing

Wall painting was a popular decoration for churches during the neo-gothic revival in the mid to late Victorian era.

The paint colour was mixed by hand and then often applied straight to the wall or ceiling. The design was often painted freehand or using stencils which included a technique called



‘Pouncing’.

This technique is where the design is drawn out on paper and the outline is pricked all around to produce small holes.

Click on the image above to see [How to Make a Tessellated Design](#).

This is then placed on the wall and dabbed all over with a small bag of fabric filled with powdered graphite or chalk. The powder is forced through the holes so that when the paper is removed it leaves an outline of the pattern on the walls.

Click on the image above to see how teenagers used [‘Pouncing’ to Transfer Designs onto Plaster Tablets](#)

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## **Gilding**

Gilding was a popular finish for the ornaments that decorated the ceilings of neo-gothic churches.

These ornaments were made of lead or plaster and were often start that shone down from their great height once gilded in gold.

The first stage to gilding is when gold is pounded until it becomes as thin as tissue paper (25g can be beaten out to cover an area of 3m square).

The surface of the ornament to be gilded is prepared by brushing it all over with a glue called size.

This is left to dry until it reaches a ‘tacky’ state.

The gold sheets are then carefully laid onto the surface of the ornament and the size sticks it to the surface.

The gold is then worked into all the areas of the ornaments using a brush to push it down. There were special brushes made

for doing this including one made from squirrel's fur.

Click on the image below to see how to apply gold leaf to a plaster relief sculpture [Gilding and a Touch of Gold](#)

## Stained Glass

The neo-gothic revival saw a resurgence in stained glass design for churches and domestic architecture of the day.

One technique used was that of Silver Staining Glass. This is where silver nitrate is painted onto clear glass and fired until the silver paint becomes part of the molecular structure of the glass and produces colours from a pale yellow to a rich orangey-amber.

Follow the link above to see [How to Print on Glass](#).

Motifs or designs were painted onto glass 'quarries' or shapes of glass that would be could together to form a leaded window.

For this reason diamonds, squares or other shapes that would tessellate were popular. This type of stained glass window also allowed a lot of light into the building which went well with the decoration of a neo-gothic church where the walls were decorated and deserved to be seen.

# 'Pouncing': A Simple Technique to Transfer

# Patterns onto Plaster Tablets

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## How to Make a Tessellated Design

### You May Also Like...

Pathway: Exploring pattern



[This is featured in the 'Exploring Pattern' pathway](#)

Talking points: Andy Gilmore



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**Using Sketchbooks to Inform  
Larger Work**

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**Sketching from a Source and  
Using Photocopies to Develop  
a Sketchbook Approach**

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# **Making Big Monotypes with Sheila Ceccarelli**

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## **Sketchbooks: Drawing Someone Drawing Something**

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### **Walking Sketchbooks**