

# Our River – Year Five Pupils Build a Communal Drawing in Four Steps

By [Sheila Ceccarelli](#)

In this session we approached creating a layered drawing and 'wax resist' on a massive scale and pupils loved it!

I was invited to lead the year 5 class at [Ridgefield Primary, Cambridge](#) in a manic, one hour session as part of their Art Week and exploration of Georges Seurat [Bathers at Asnières](#), 1884, [National Gallery](#), London.



Initially children worked with masking tape, sticking long



lengths of it down the paper



This gave pupils a sense of immediate interaction, ownership and excitement at working on a large scale



Detail of masking tape - pupils enjoyed working together





To get a sense of the length of the paper, and prevent the youngsters feeling confined to one part of the sheet, they walked in procession mark making along the length and breadth of it using permanent markers and graphite





They were encouraged to experiment with their marks and imagine the sounds and feeling of water whilst working





Pupils were then given a selection of oil pastels and encouraged to work energetically making marks inspired by the water and responding to the marks and lines already on the paper







Pupils build the drawing with oil pastels



Oil pastels and permanent marker marks over masking tape







Then the real fun began! Pupils were given paint and coloured Indian ink and encouraged to respond to the existing marks on the paper with strong strokes



Pupils seemed to love this process and enjoy the freedom of experimenting with how to apply paint







And for some a fully immersive experience!



Whilst others are more controlled in their approach!







There are moments of sheer joy!



And absolute engagement





Layers of paint over masking tape, oil pastel and permanent marker







Pupils then worked together to peel off the masking tape, now buried under layers of marks and texture







To reveal the original design with masking tape





Working together



Finished work - Pupils marvel at their creation!







The fabulous class teacher Mrs Timmis then guided pupils in a discussion about what they might do with or to their river drawing next.

Pupils voiced many wonderful ideas including populating the river banks with a class picnic or making it into a three dimensional sculpture. I eagerly await news from Ridgefield Primary School as to what happened next!

Many thanks for having AccessArt!

*Every individual has the right to be creative. AccessArt provides inspiration to help us all reach our creative potential. [Join Us!](#)*

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## **Teachers Make Mark Making Tools and 'Battle it Out' with Ink on a Spring InSET Day**

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## **Red to Green: Wax Resist and Scraffito**



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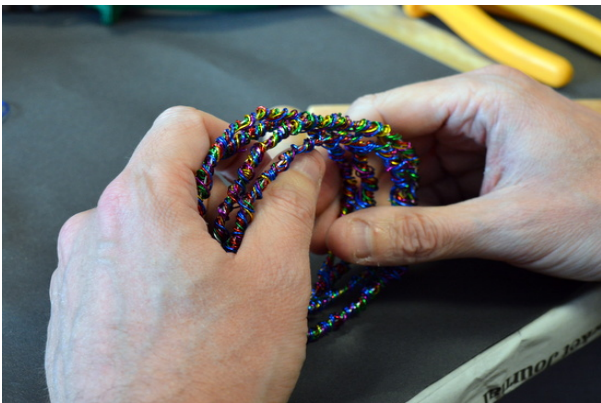
# Aspire to Create: Inspired by Nature & Empowered by Creativity – Red to Green

## One: Casting



Exploring mark making into wet clay, mould making, mixing and pouring plaster

## Two: Patterns in Nature, Line and Wire





## Using drawing to look at designs and patterns in nature to inspire the creation of wire sculpture

### Three: Taking Rubbings and Making Compositions



## Recording the surrounding world by taking rubbings

### Four: Block Printing



## Learners are introduced to block printing

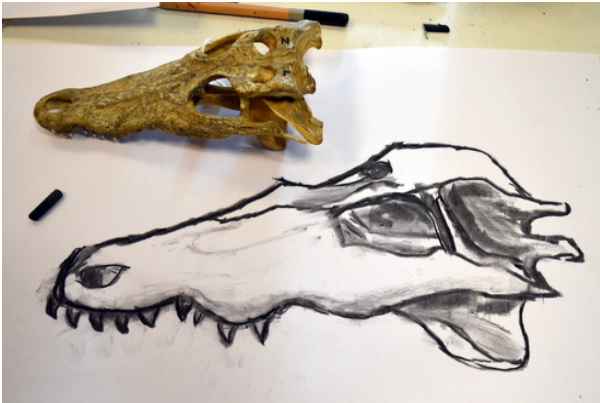
### Five: Monoprinting





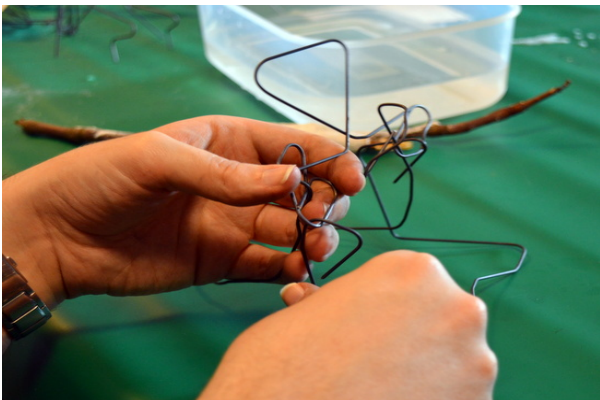
## Exploring texture, pattern and mark making through monoprinting

### **Six: Steps to Observational Drawing**



## Four steps to enabling observational drawing

### **Seven: Making Sculpture**





## Learners explore sculptural principles of form, space and balance

### **Eight: Wax Resist and Scraffito**



## Introducing colour with wax resist and scraffito techniques



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**Printing at Battyeftord  
Primary, Inspired by Hester  
Cox**

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# Illustrating Jabberwocky'

'The

In this resource, AccessArt contributor Eleanor Somerset, illustrates how she worked with a group of 7-10 year old pupils and another of 10-15 year old budding artists, at the Little Art Studio in Sheffield, on a series of workshops to illustrate Lewis Carroll's The Jabberwocky.

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## Making and Drawing Birds

creating decorative designs from birds:  
markmaking, texture and pattern



In the Company of Birds



**nest**

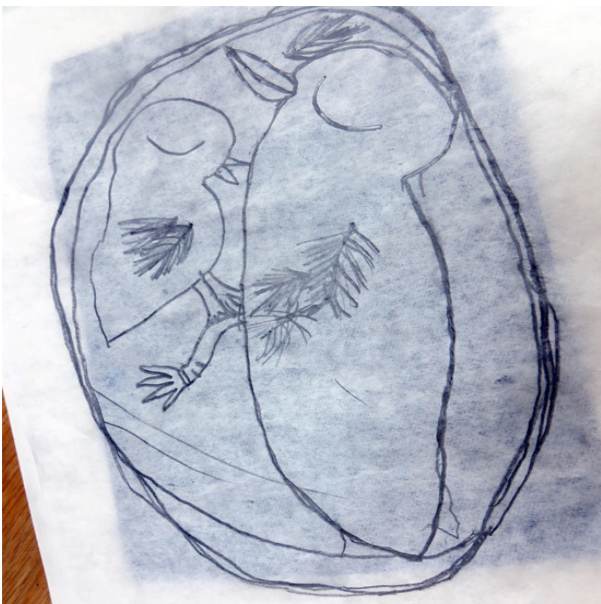


**Rowan: Making a Clay Bird from a Mould**

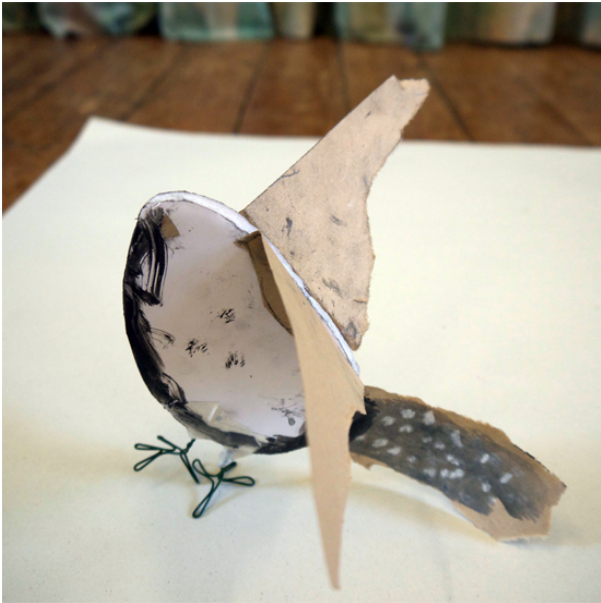




**dragons and birds in eggs: hidden and revealed**



**making birds! sculptural ideas for primary schools**



## **Sculptural Birds in Flight by Teenage Makers**



**rook: transforming materials**





**Printing at Battyford Primary, Inspired by Hester Cox**



**‘Flock’ at Prospect House School, Inspired by Veronica Lindsay-Addy**



**book transformation: flock of birds**



**drawing birds with mixed media: creating effects with oil pastels, crayons and ink washes**





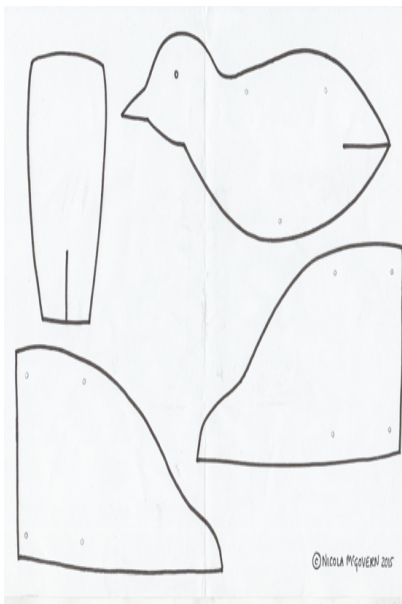
**‘Dawn Chorus’ by Marcus Coates**



**Colourful Sculptural Birds by Pupils at Donhead Preparatory School**



## **Priscilla the Puffin: Make a Simple Bird Mobile**

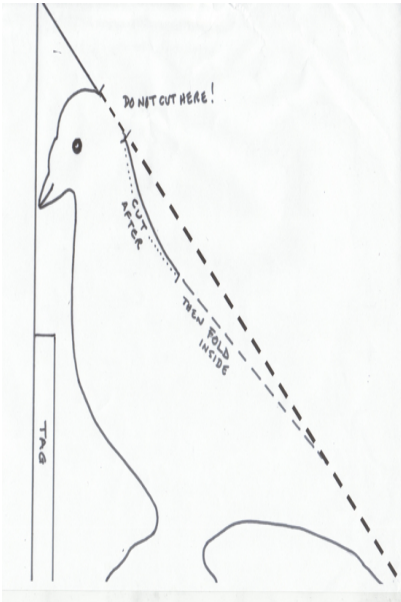


## **How to Make a Simple Origami Bird by Melanie Johns**





## **Paper Pidgeon Project**



**‘Birds in the Trees’ by Pupils at Battyeford Primary School**



## **Brave Young Makers: Year Three Pupils at Ridgefield Primary Transform materials into Birds and Insects**



**making modroc sculpture**





## **cantus articus (Concerto for birds and orchestra) Op.61: Images Inspired by Music**



**Perseverance, Determination and Inventiveness: Building Nests**



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**Wax Resist with Coloured Inks  
and Sgraffito on Foamboard**

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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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## Drypoint Etching

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**VIVID Young Creatives: Hannah Webb and Anne Struebel at**



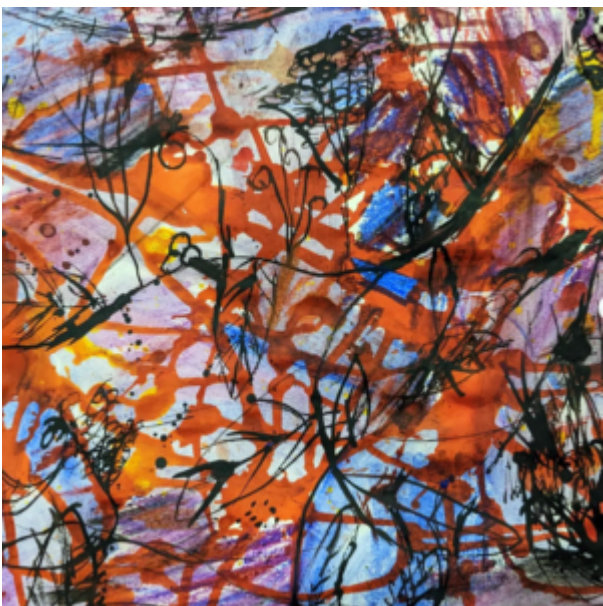
# Witchford Village College

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## Hedgerow Art by Sara Dudman

See This Resource Used In  
Schools...











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# Drawing Materials Sample Cards

Drawing project to create sample drawing material cards which can be used for future reference and inspiration. [Full AccessArt Members Only](#)



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# Designing Wallpaper!

Using photocopied drawings to design wallpaper! [Full AccessArt Members Only](#)

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## Drawing Shells On Loan From The University Museum of Zoology, Cambridge

Teenagers experiment to make small marks in pencil or ink of shells on loan from the University Museum of Zoology, Cambridge

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## See Three Shapes

A simple exercise with Indian ink to help children see and convey simple forms in drawing.

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# Asemic Writing: Expressive Mark Making through Invented Text

Asemic writing is an expressive form of writing that can only be interpreted by the viewer with the tools of instinct, empathy, intuition and emotion. [Full AccessArt Members Only](#)

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## Monoprinting with Oil Pastel and Carbon Copy Paper

Making mono prints using carbon paper and oil pastel. [Full AccessArt Members Only](#)

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## Drawing Bubbles

Teenagers explore drawing by blowing bubbles! [Full AccessArt Members Only](#)