

Touch Wood

By [Mostyn de Beer](#)

Mostyn de Beer is an experienced artist educator based in Sweden. Mostyn is especially interested in environmental art; his practice investigates links between creating art and environmental education. In this post (the third one in [a series](#)), Mostyn is talking to two artists about using and combining different materials in their practice, and the effect their art has on the environment.



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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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[Woodland Exploration](#)



A Passion for Woodworking



Visual Arts PLanning: Tees, Forest and Landscapes

Which Artists: Jason Line

What We Like About This Resource...

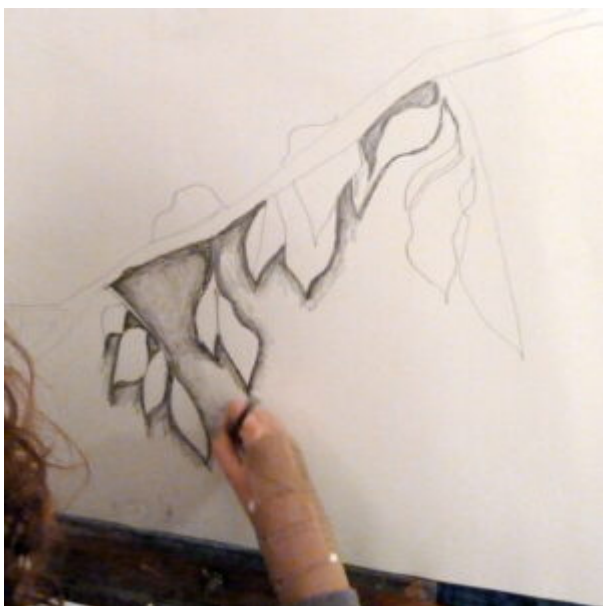
“It’s always so inspiring to hear how different artists work and we particularly like the detailed references Jake makes to his process – marking out the composition using neutral tones; adding and taking away compositional elements and gradually

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*

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[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

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

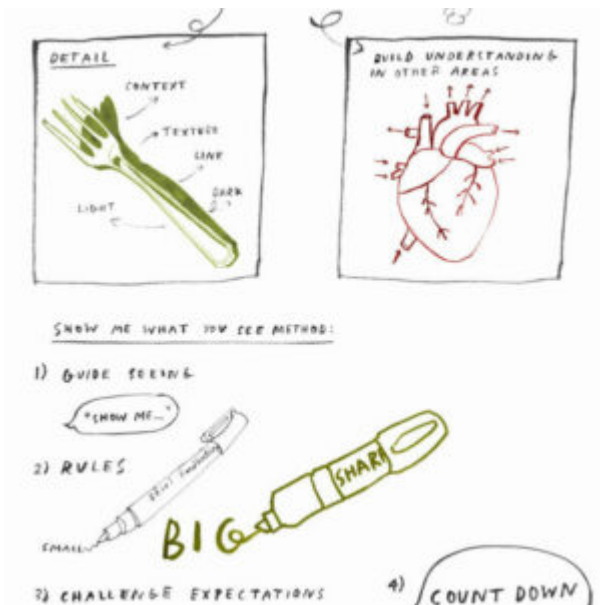


[This is featured in the 'Exploring Pattern' pathway](#)

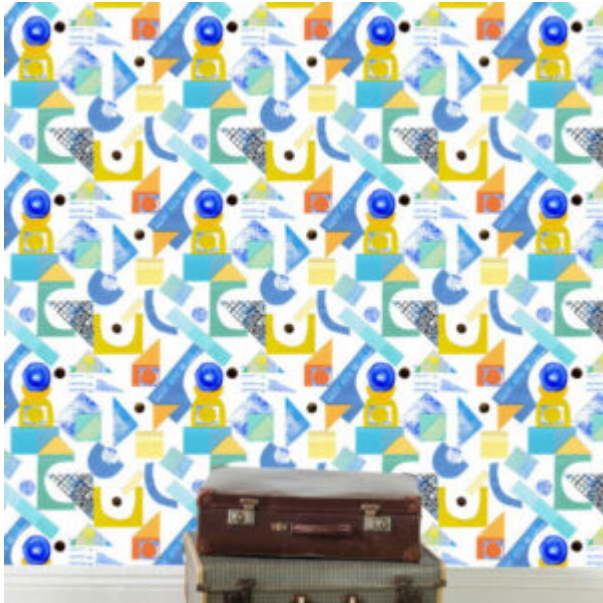
using sketchbooks to make visual notes



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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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](#)



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Visual Arts Planning: Trees, Forests and Landscape

Which Artists: Nathan Ward

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](#)



Communal Drawing: Summer Picnic



Redesigning Food Packaging

Volcano Painting inspired by Frank Bowling

See This Resource Used In Schools...

















What We Like About This Resource...

“We love how this activity provides an opportunity to explore a well known Artist’s work, through focussing on their materials and techniques. The children looked at Frank Bowling’s work before creating their own individual responses that retained individual ownership – something we

advocate as part of a rich and balanced visual arts education. It was also great to see how a professional artist visited the school to further enhance the children's experience." – *Rachel, AccessArt*

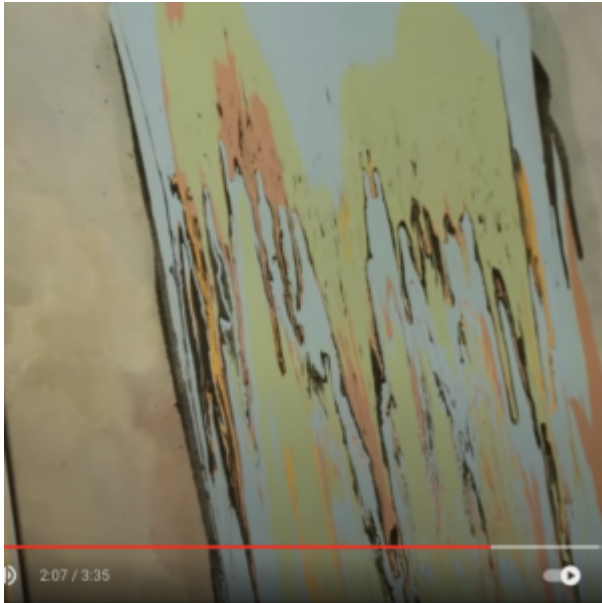
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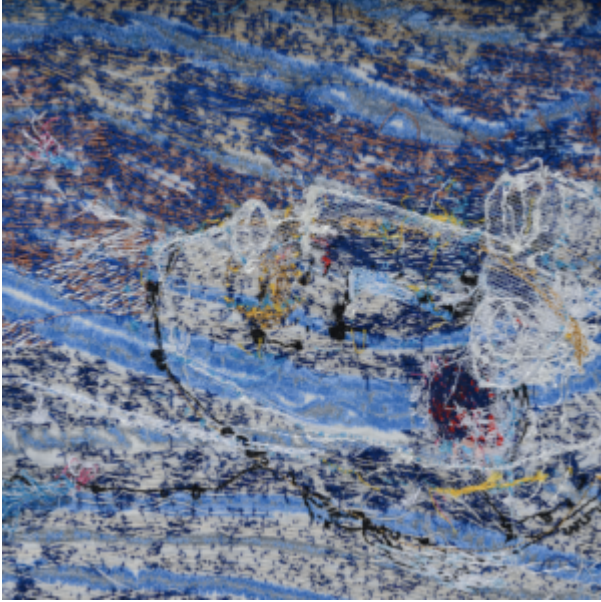
Talking Points: Frank Bowling



Talking Points: Hannah Rae



Talking Points: Alice Kettle



Which Artists: We are out of office

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*

You May Also Like...



[Dry Point Etching](#)



Printmaking Using Packaging



MonoPrinting with Carbon Paper

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*

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Pathway: Telling Stories through drawing and making



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

Pathway: Set Design



This is featured in the 'Set Design' pathway

talking points: negative space by tiny inventions



Gabby Savage-Dickson: Felting & Embroidering Sets



Year 3 Roald Dahl & Quentin Blake Homework



Draw, Paint, Build, Make: Gallery Project



The Art Of Zines

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Pathway: Print & Activism

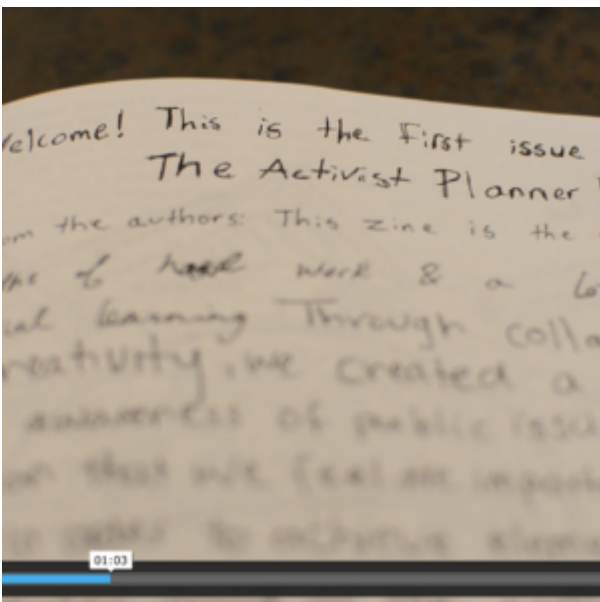


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Talking Points: Luba Lukova



Talking Points: What is a Zine?



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Book Artists



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Movement Maps

Redesigning Food Packaging

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Talking Points: Packaging Design



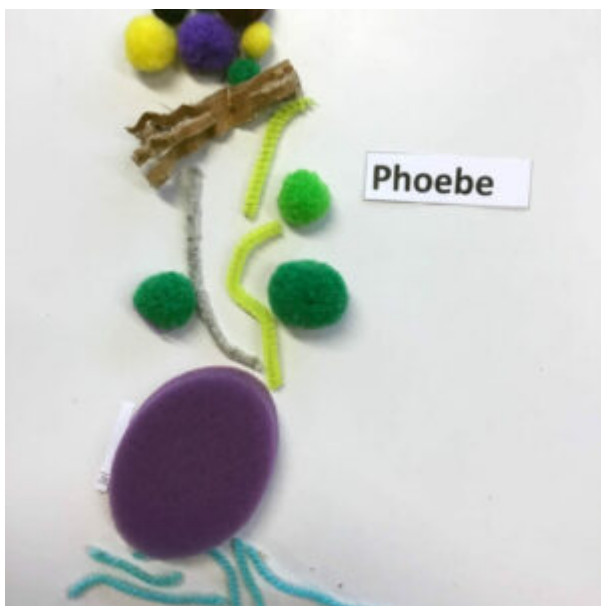
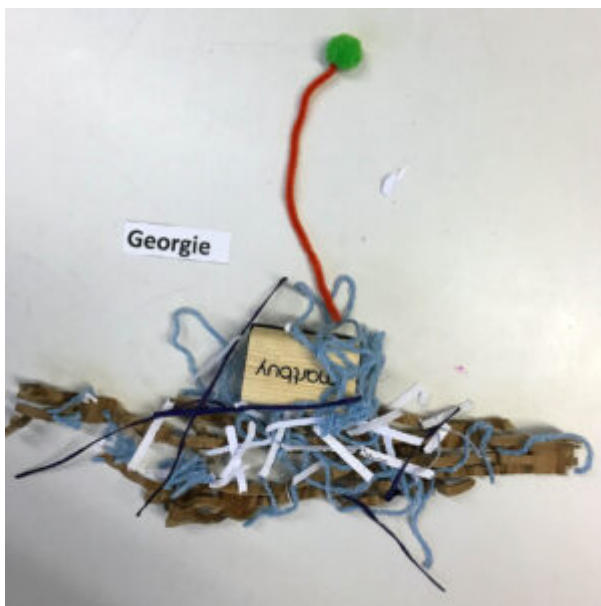
What is Typography

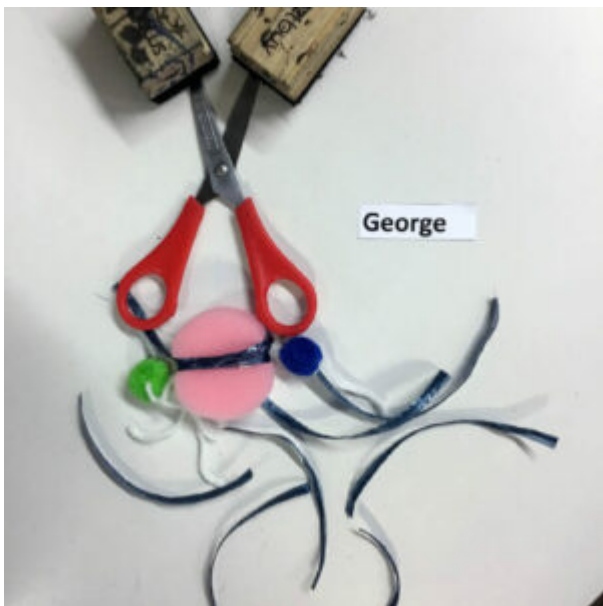
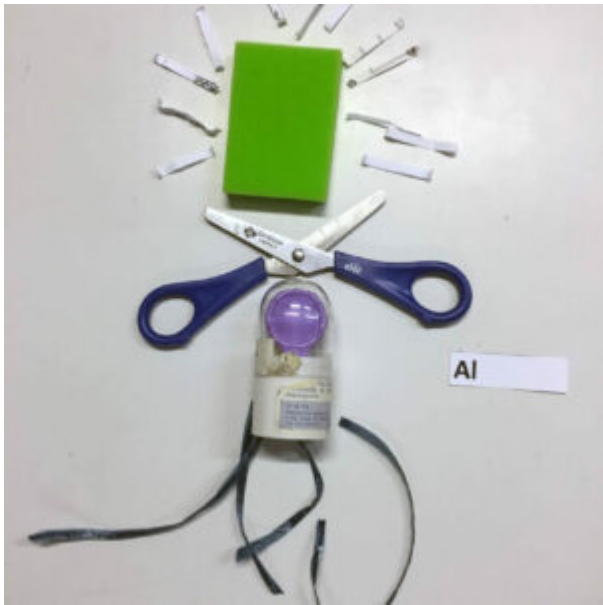


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