

Making a Backwards Sketchbook

A backwards sketchbook starts with drawings on paper which then get constructed into a book. They are a great way to both store your drawings, and to help learners reflect upon and rework existing drawings.

Benefits:

- A way to collect together old drawings which might otherwise not have a life.
- An opportunity to reflect upon old drawings, and make new marks in response.
- The drawings can be removed if needed.

You Will Need:

- A selection of old drawings made on paper. These might be drawings made as a result of drawing exercises.
- Elastic band
- Cardboard

Process:

1. Collect. Collect old drawings of various sizes together.

2. Make the Cover. Cut a piece of cardboard twice the size of the finished sketchbook and fold it in half.

3. Fold the Drawings. Fold the drawings so that they fit in the sketchbook.

4. Secure. Secure with an elastic band.

5. Revisit the old drawings by using the sketchbook - you might choose to reflect upon the drawings and make notes in the sketchbook, or add new drawings to your old.



This is a sample of a resource created by UK Charity AccessArt. We have over 1500 resources to help develop and inspire your creative thinking, practice and teaching.

AccessArt welcomes artists, educators, teachers and parents both in the UK and overseas.

We believe everyone has the right to be creative and by working together and sharing ideas we can enable everyone to reach their creative potential.

Animal Habitats: An Ecological Mural of Planet Earth

Vicki Ostensen visits her local Primary School to create a beautiful large scale mural of animals in their natural habitats.

Shadow Puppet Making and Performance

How Middle Eastern architecture was the inspiration behind a shadow puppet show for a year 4 class. A great opportunity for children to learn the technical aspects of making puppets, but also using narrative and story to create a performance.

Ink Collage Inspired by The Wolf Wilder

Using a well loved children's book as a starter for creating a beautiful and varied collage using different inking techniques.

Making a Scroll Drawing

Shells: Observational and Imaginative Drawing

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Still Life Compositions



[Create and paint your own still life composition inspired by Cezanne](#)

Drawing Spiral Snails



[Explore spirals found in nature with this mixed media workshop](#)

Drawing Spirals



Explore drawing using whole body movements

One Roll of Paper, Two Activities

Printed Houses

Unesco: Celebrating the Power of Making!

Inspired by Paula's recent rousing film, 'It's in Our Hands', artist Jan Miller pulled images together from her own teaching to illustrate the things the children in her classroom do with their hands

Bubble Drawings

Pastel and Rubber Chiaroscuro Drawings

Thinking Silhouettes

Mini World Light Boxes

Teacher Anna Campbell shares this beautiful resource which shares how children aged between 4 and 7 years old, made

'Light' boxes. This project could easily be adapted for an older class and is brilliant for SEN children/adults.

Wall Drawings with Tape

Classical Inks

Abstract Face – Relief Sculptures

In this construction and painting resource, students make an abstract face, relief sculpture from cardboard, adding colour, texture and metal findings. This resource was inspired by the work of Kimmy Cantrell, a self-taught contemporary artist who uses asymmetry to question long-established views around beauty.

The Wildflower Meadow

Rachel Burch, Head of Art at Burton Hathow Preparatory School and her pupils explore simple drawing, collaging and painting techniques to create beautiful artworks inspired by a summer meadow.

Santa comes in all Shapes and Sizes: Yr 3 Make Bouncing Santas!

A fun end of term project that would also be perfect to do at home – making model Santas with character! Jan Miller share a process to make 3D model Santas using simple materials and processes. This activity can be used with children aged 7 to 14 (any KS, 2, 3 children).

Animating Hands!

Using image frames from video to create quirky animations of hands moving!

For Remembrance Day

Anne-Louise Quinton creates a project for her Year 9 pupils to commemorate Remembrance Day. The teenagers worked collaboratively to create a collaged frieze of paper soldiers in response to an artwork by John Singer Sargent and a war poem by Wilfred Owen.