

# Which Artists: The Life & Works of Madge Gill

By Sophie Dutton

In this post Art Director and Curator Sophie Dutton talks about the life and works of artist Madge Gill. As a self-taught artist born in the late Nineteenth Century, Madge created meticulous small-scale and monumental works, skilfully exploring different techniques and formats including paints, inks and textiles. A life time of drawing, painting and embroidering has resulted in a rich tapestry of the life of Madge Gill. Sophie Dutton takes us on a journey of Madge Gill's life and work, through extracts of her book [Madge Gill by Myrnerest](#) and the monumental exhibition [Nature in Mind](#).



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## What We Like About This Resource...

"The life of Madge Gill that Sophie Dutton recounts here gives us real insight into the

challenges that Madge Gill experienced, and how these challenges would have been common among women at the time. When we study the work of Artists, it adds a rich context to our experience of their work to consider their personal history, and helps us ask questions like ‘why do you think the Artist painted in this way or was inspired by this subject matter?’ If you introduce your class to Madge Gill, begin with looking back over her younger life to try and better understand her motivations as an Artist” – *Rachel, AccessArt*

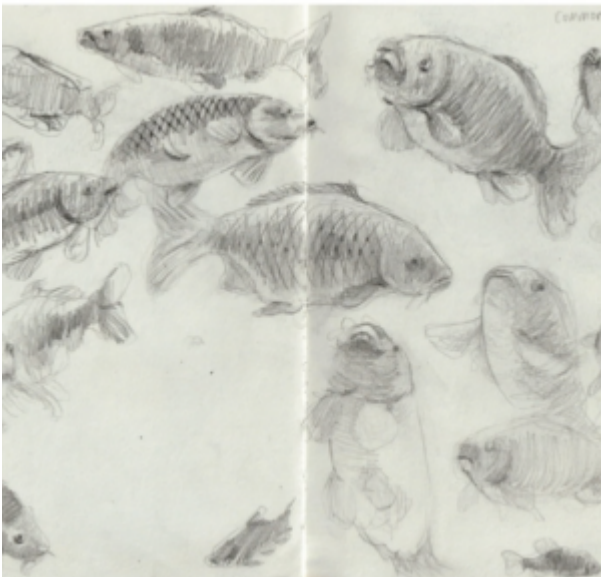
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# Transformation of Materials



# Inspired by El Anatsui

See This Resource Used in a Pathway...



## Transforming Materials into Sculpture

This pathway shares how teachers might take inspiration from El Anatsui and encourage pupils to think how they might disassemble objects around them to transform them into sculptural pieces.

[Read More.](#)

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# **The Transformation Project**

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**Transforming Cardboard with Andrea Butler**

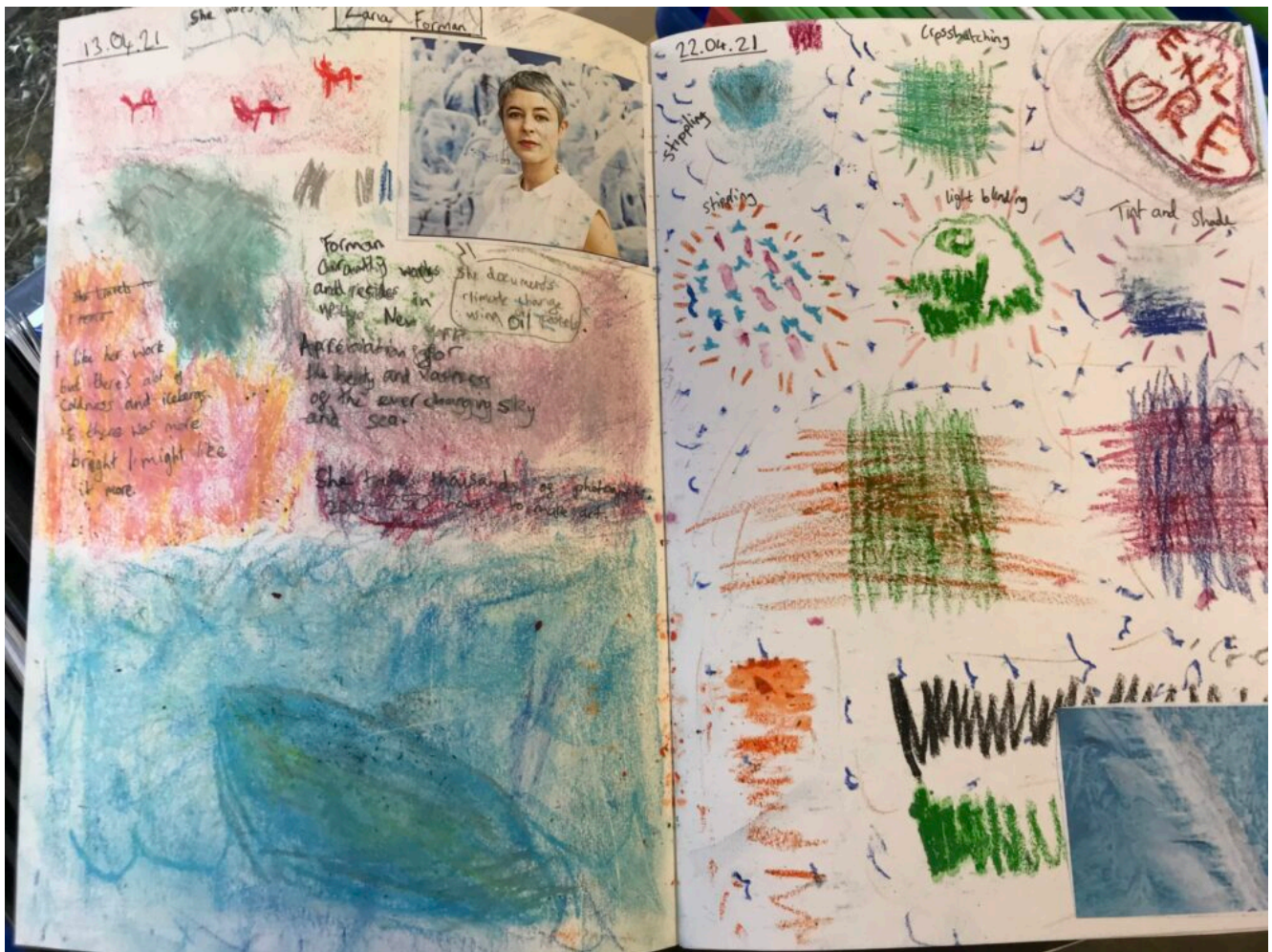


Artist Andrea Butler shows how to explore simple design and construction using cardboard and jewellery. [Read More](#)

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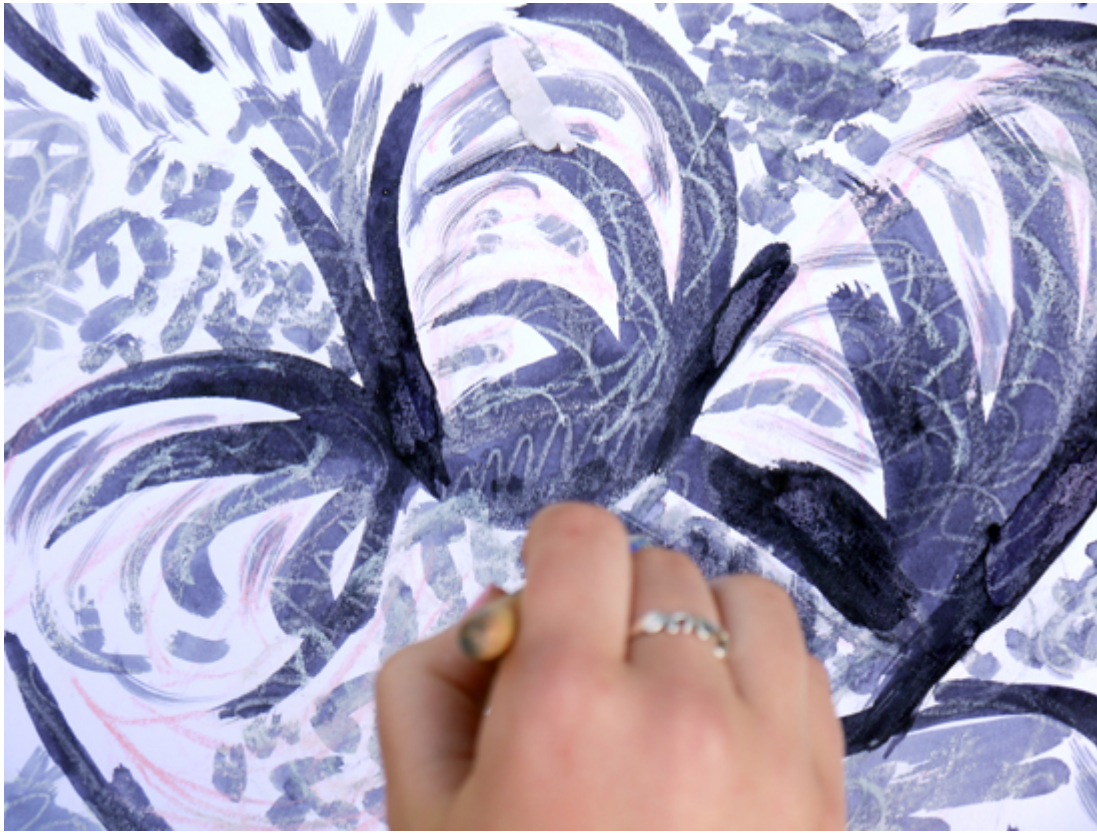
## Sketchbooks Should Be...

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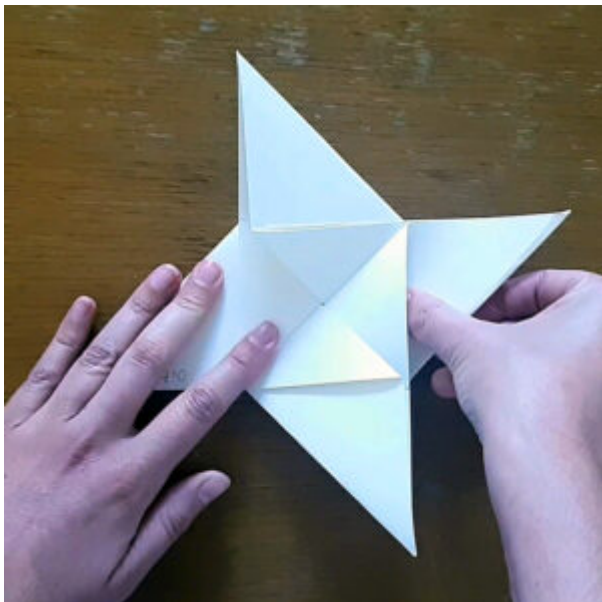
## Turkish Map Fold

# What We Like About This Resource...

“This activity is a great example of how we can use paper as the focus of creativity. Often we use paper purely for drawing or painting on, but here, it is central to the activity itself. While these particular folded sculptures have their roots in Turkish culture, you could still deliver the activity if looking at things like Origami too, thus linking it across different cultures” – *Rachel, AccessArt*

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## Paperback Figures




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# Which Artists: Liz West

## What We Like About This Resource...

*"It's really interesting to hear how the interest Liz has in the quality of light comes from a personal place and is something she has responded to since childhood. Seeing how her work has developed over the years is therefore a really positive re enforcement that individual creative journeys, where nurtured, are so central to a rich arts education. We also love hearing Liz is always on the 'quest for knowledge' – meaning she is open to her ideas constantly evolving and the process of gathering new information and inspiration never stops!" – Rachel, AccessArt*

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**This is featured in the 'Brave colour' pathway**

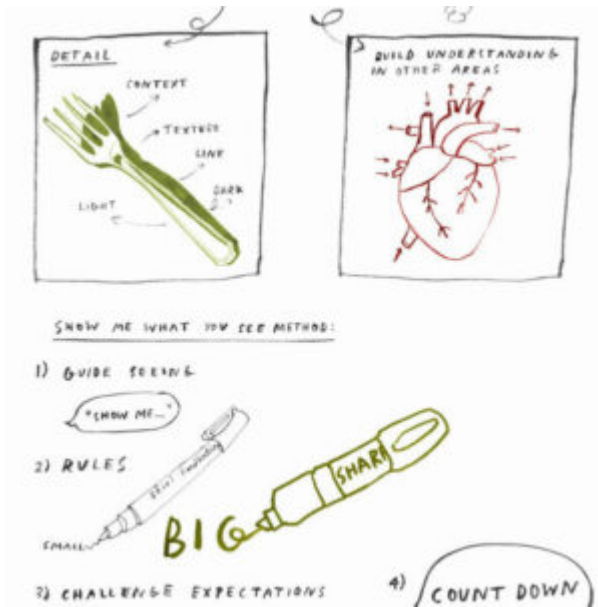
**using sketchbooks to make visual notes**



**Find out how pupils can respond to artists work in sketchbooks**

**Show me what you see**





Enable close looking and drawing with this exercise

## Lightbulb Art



## Mini World Light Boxes



## **Visual Arts Planning: Light and Dark**



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## **Collage Streets**

# What We Like About This Resource...

“This project provides a real opportunity for children to engage with a range of different processes to produce truly individual final results. Jan Miller is an experienced teacher and connects her projects well with learning outcomes. In this case, children are encouraged to have a loose approach and to make their own creative decisions – which is such a valuable part of any child (or adults!) creative education”. – *Rachel, AccessArt*

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# What We Like About This Resource...

“This project links poignant subject matter with meaningful art processes and local history. What we learn about the re purposing of materials, (in this case spent ammunition) re affirms how we can use what is around us as a starting point to making and creating. You could extend or adapt this project by looking at broken pottery, re purposing that into new sculptures that link with Roman or other local historical cultures” – *Rachel, AccessArt*

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[Henry Moore's Shelter Drawings](#)



## Remembrance Day Soldiers



## For Remembrance Day

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**Which Artists: Claire Harrup**



# What We Like About This Resource...

“We really enjoyed reading about the process of creating art work according to a design brief and how the experience of this differs to when an artist begins with their own idea or concept. That’s not to say an artist can’t approach a brief with their own individual style and ideas, but what this post shows us is that there can be a balance between the two. This would be a great resource to show older KS pupils who may be beginning to consider their options beyond Primary School”. – *Rachel, AccessArt*

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## Talking Points: Packaging Design



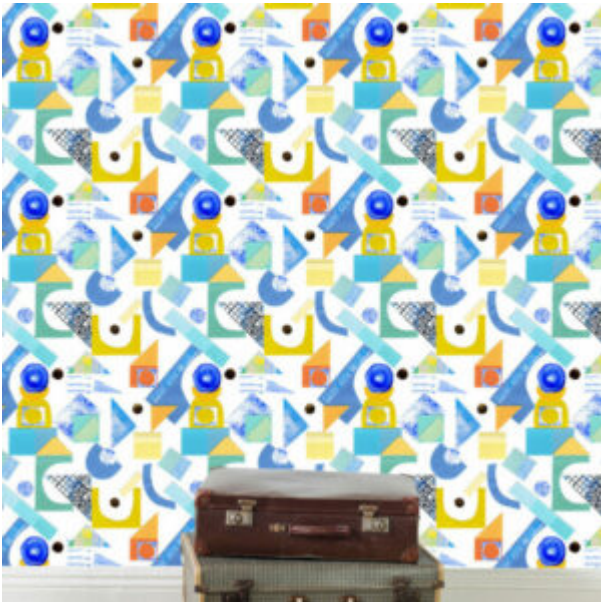
# What is Typography



## Which Artist: Rachel Parker



## Repeating Patterns



## Block Printing Repeat Patterns



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**Which Artists: Theresa Easton**

**What We Like About This Resource...**

**"It's interesting to hear Theresa describe Printmaking as a social activity, with the shared use of materials and equipment so central to the practice. This could be a positive way of working for lots of children in school, where instead of just working on individual art work, they can collaborate and embrace the creative sharing experience!" – Tobi, AccessArt.**



# You Might Also Like...



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**Which Artists: Ava Jolliffe**

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**Which Artists: 2B or Not 2B**

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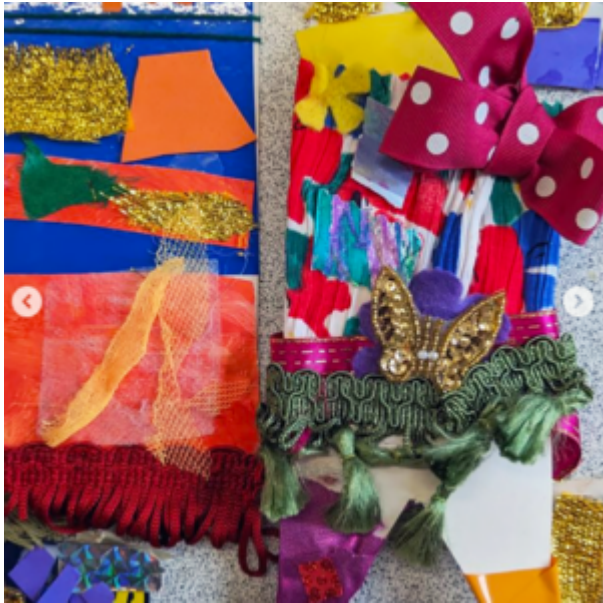
**Sketchbook      Journey      At  
Haslingfield Primary School**

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# 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

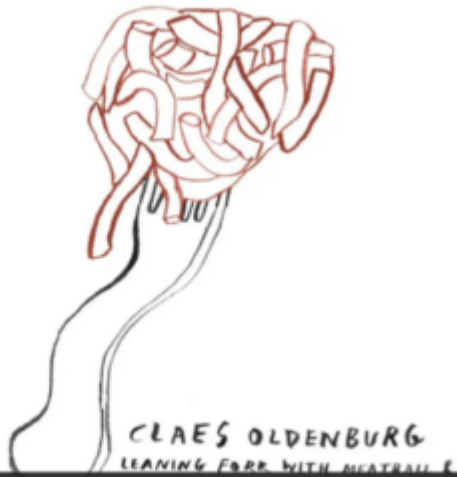


[Featured in the 'Playful Making' pathway](#)

Talking Points: Introduction to sculpture

Sculpture.mp4

1



## Clay Art Medals



## Talking Points: Nnena Kalu



## Talking Points: Linda BELL



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## 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**



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## 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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## [Woodland Exploration](#)



## [A Passion for Woodworking](#)





## Visual Arts PLanning: Tees, Forest and Landscapes

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**Which Artists: Jason Line**

**What We Like About This Resource...**

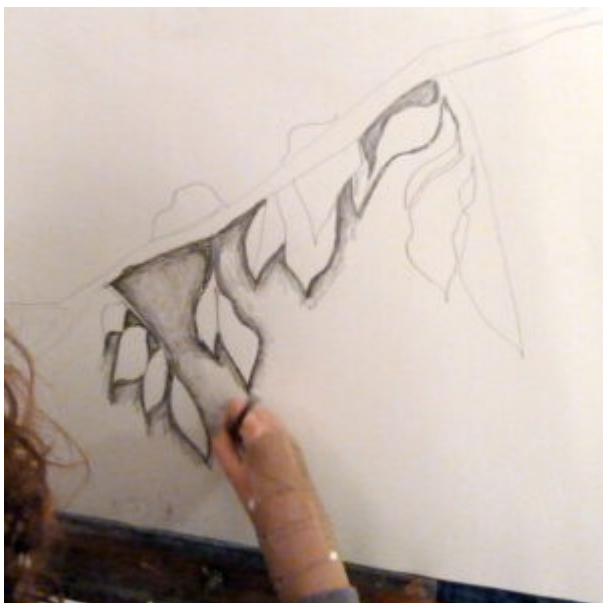
“It’s always so inspiring to hear how different artists work and we particularly like the detailed references Jake makes to his process – marking out the composition using neutral tones; adding and taking away compositional elements and gradually building in more colour and detail. Delivering a still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

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**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

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