

Modelling The Head in Clay – by Melissa Pierce Murray

Artist [Melissa Pierce Murray](#) led a series of workshops for AccessArt's Experimental Drawing Class in which the teenagers modelled a head in clay. There are four resources in this series, beginning with constructing an armature and making preparatory drawings, then studying the bone structure of the skull before moving on to features.

The work was done over 8 sessions of 75 minutes each, but could be adapted to two or three longer sessions. The workshops took place at over a term at [Cambridge ArtWorks](#).

Part One - Armature



Teenagers construct simple armatures out of cardboard and build a form for their clay heads out of paper and clay. [Read More](#)

Part Two - Preparations



[__](#)This post looks at two preparations for making a clay head: drawing to help us learn to see the form in the round, and taking measurements from life. [Read More](#)

Part Three - Skull



[__](#)In this post we concentrate on developing the shape of the cranium and forehead, the structure of the eye sockets, cheekbones, jaws and teeth. Referring to anatomical drawings or to a model of a skull will help students begin to see this bony underpinning to the skin and muscles of the head. [Read More](#)

Part Four - Features



 We look at how to form the features: eyes, ears, mouth. We look at ways to finish and embellish the form using hair, clothing or inventing horns. In the class we talked about how the muscles attach to the bones, and how the skin smooths over the surfaces. [Read More](#)

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.

Collaborative Design: Making Dungarees!

Collaborative sewing project which aimed to help builds a sense of “team” in teenager animators. Connecting head, heart and mind in this challenge helped creative juices flow in other areas of the #BeACreativeProducer animation project.

Use Scrapstores!

Screen Printing T Shirts for the How To Be A Creative

Producer Project

This post shares the process of screen printing t-shirts for the #BeACreativeProducer teenagers to wear to help them identify as a “team” for the animation project.

Modelling the Head in Clay Part 4 – Features

This is the final post in a series of posts following teenagers modelling a clay head over a term with artist Melissa Pierce Murray. In the final session of the series: Modelling the Head in Clay, we look at how to form the features: eyes, ears, mouth. We look at ways to finish and embellish the form using hair, clothing or inventing horns. In the class we talked about how the muscles attach to the bones, and how the skin smooths over the surfaces.

Modelling the Head in Clay Part 3 – Skull

This is the third post in a series of posts we concentrated on creating a solid armature and clay foundation for our clay heads. In this post This post is the third in a series of posts following teenagers making a clay head over the course of a term with artist Melissa Pierce Murray. Here they concentrate on developing the shape of the cranium and

forehead, the structure of the eye sockets, cheekbones, jaws and teeth.

Modelling the Head in Clay Part 2 – Preparations

This post looks at two preparations for making a clay head: drawing to help us learn to see the form in the round, and taking measurements from life.

This is the second post in a series of resources showing how teenagers modelled a clay head over the course of a term.

Modelling the Head in Clay Part 1 – Armature

Making a Steel or Wood Armature is the first in a series of resources showing how teenagers modelled a clay head over the course of a term.

Drama Exercises Explore

Teamwork, Cooperation, Movement & Narrative

If your animation project is team-based, then you might want to think about how you build a sense of collaboration. This resource shares how drama can be used as a way to explore ideas about teamwork, cooperation, movement and narrative which will feed into animations.

Animating with a Green Screen

This resource shares two accessible and fun ways of animating with a green screen, filming people and using props. Both methods use minimal minimal equipment.

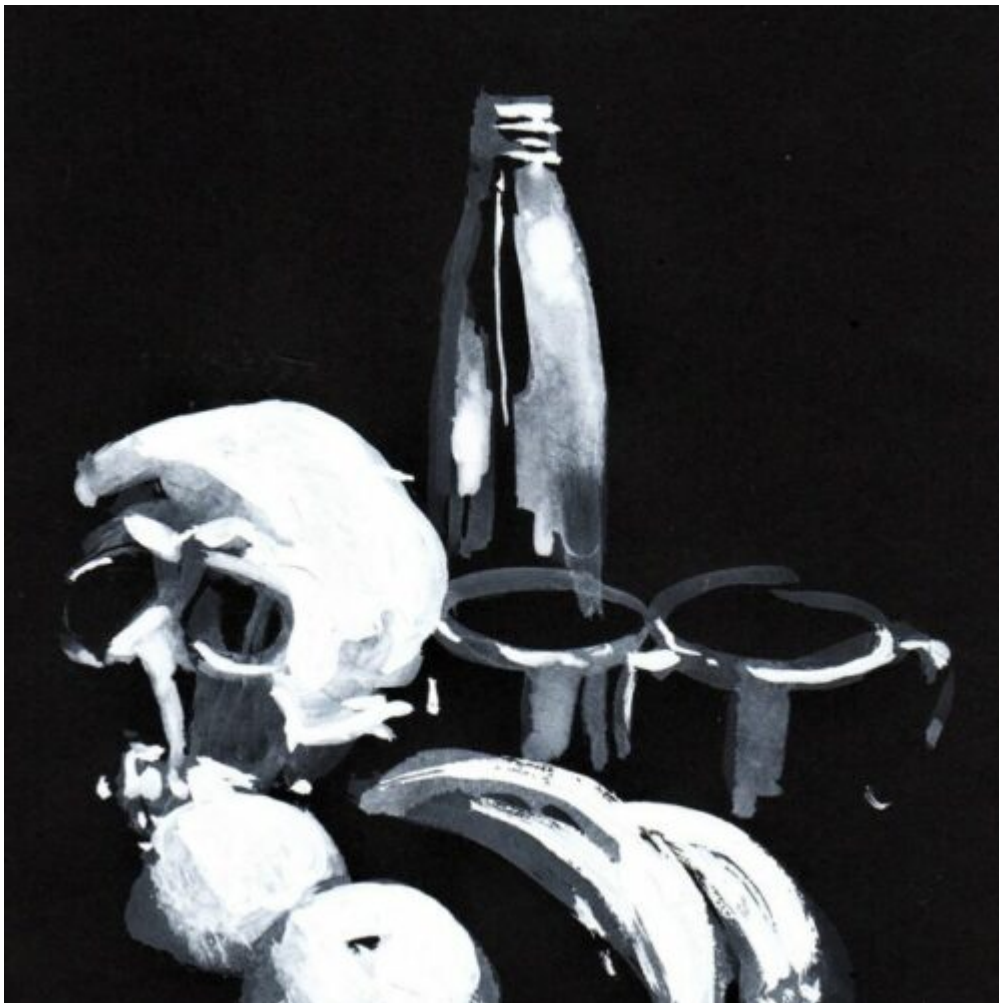
Pimp That Snack! Large Scale Food Sculptures

Art educator Anne-Louise Quinton shares a process for making super sized food sculptures from everyday materials, inspired by the work of Claes Oldenburg. This is a fun and challenging sculpture project for Year Nine and above.

Project 13

AccessArt Artist Rowan Briggs Smith shares her ideas and outcomes behind Project 13, and AccessArt Artist Mitch composes music to accompany the paintings.

Basic Concepts in Drawing & Painting by Hester Berry



AGES 4 TO 11

Resources created by painter [Hester Berry](#), which aim to introduce some basic drawing and painting concepts to primary-aged children and their teachers.

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Shape



Hester explains how seeing shapes objectively can help our drawing skills.

Colour



Simple, progressive exercises to explore colour mixing in a dynamic way.

Tone



Hester explains how we can use tone in drawing and painting to help describe form, atmosphere, and context.

Portrait



Hester shares simple exercises to kick start drawing portraits.

Exploring Colour with Hester Berry

Teaching Children to See Shapes Objectively by Hester Berry

Introduction to Portraits by Hester Berry

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Visual Arts Planning Collections:
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basic concepts in drawing and painting



Introduction to 'Tone' by Hester Berry

7 & 8 Year Olds Explore MonoPrinting & Oil Painting

Making Papier-Mache Marionette Puppets Inspired by Characters in a Historical Painting

Year three children make marionette puppets to tell the story illustrated in of “Penelope with the Suitors” by Pintoricchio in 1509 with their teacher Jan Miller.

Pop-Up Puppets Inspired by a Historical Painting

Year three children design and make pop-up puppets inspired by the story in the painting “Penelope with the Suitors,” by Pintoricchio (1509), working with their teacher Jan Miller.