

Soft Pastels

Exploring Materials: Soft Pastels



Soft pastels (sometimes called chalk pastels) are colourful, highly pigmented sticks made from chalk mixed with a small amount of resin or gum.

They come in a range of hardness levels, from very soft to quite firm, which makes them perfect for experimenting with different lines, layering colours, and blending or smudging effects.

They work especially well on textured papers with a little “tooth” or grip, such as sugar paper, which helps the pastel hold to the surface beautifully.

Enjoy this collection of resources, all of which are easily adaptable for all ages and settings.

INTRODUCTION TO SOFT PASTELS

Artist Lance Richardson introduces soft pastels – their characteristics and how they might be used.

[See the full post here.](#)

explore pastels and chalks

Handpicked resources to help inspire an exploration of pastels and chalks

Drawing Spiral Snails



Adding Colour



Develop skills...

Try these projects to help develop skills and experience

Using Pastels to Capture Texture



Monoprint and Painting the great fire of London



Missing You



See All AccessArt Soft Pastel Resources