Insect Hotels

By [Tobi Meuwissen](#)

In this two-part resource exploring making and drawing, students will have the opportunity to create insect hotels using natural materials sourced from their local area. They will go on to create drawings inspired by their insect hotels, experimenting with different materials and mark-making. This activity can be adapted for age groups and can be linked to curriculum topics in science such as mini beasts and habitats. [Become a member](#) to access the full post below.

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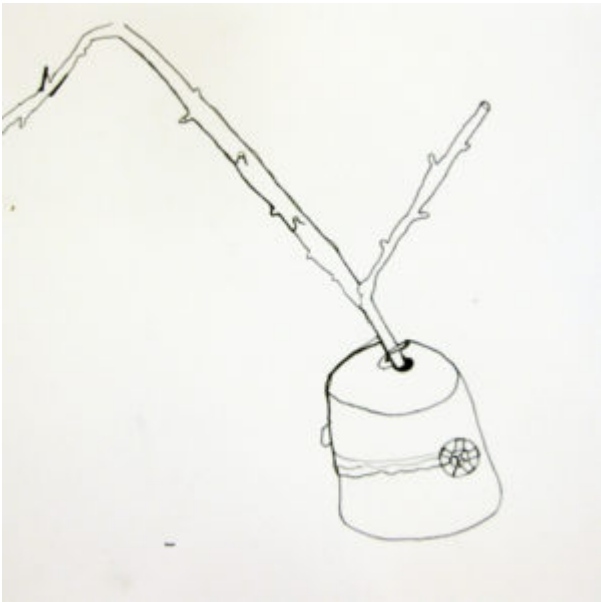Schools, Colleges, Arts Organisations: Single and Multi-Users
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Collecting Colour in my Moodboard Book

What We Like About This Resource…

"It's really nice to see that although Rachel Parker works quite digitally, her process from the beginning is very tactile. Rachels books act as a really great source of inspiration, helping to break down the creative blocks that we all get from time to time. Having a sketchbook dedicated to colour means that as well as working with colours that you already love, you can test new

colour palettes and see colours from a new perspective. I especially love how Rachel picks up on the different tones in colours by looking at the way light hits it in order build her colour palette around those supporting tones as well as big statement colours." – Tobi, AccessArt

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Collecting Colour

What We Like About This Resource…

"It's great to see how a simple exercise such as colour collecting, which can be done in a classroom setting, is also used in a professional capacity. This gives the activity a clear context and purpose. It's nice to see Rachel's decisions being made in real time, it demonstrates how artists are constantly reflecting on and self evaluating their own decisions. Rachel also shows us that she sometimes gets colour palettes from photos that she's taken herself, this is really

exciting because it demonstrates how the artists experience is central to their work. Students will be able to bring their own experience and personality to this activity by having complete control over what their colour moodboard becomes."
— Tobi, AccessArt

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What We Like About This Resource…

"Rachel's work is so vibrant and full of joy, it's really exciting to see how she starts to form creative ideas around colour. Rachel highlights the importance of colour trends but also gives herself the opportunity to create her own trends which adds a level of playfulness and personality to her colour exploration. Seeing her colour books translate into fabric demonstrates a real clarity in her decision making process." – Tobi, AccessArt.

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What We Like About This Resource…

'This resource really demonstrates how art can successfully bring awareness to important humanitarian issues, promote inclusivity and can give a platform to those who otherwise wouldn't be heard. The links between text, photos and drawings are really strong and demonstrate the creative process used by Olivier from start to finish. I

really like the inclusion of suggestions for students within the post, which encourage students to learn more about their community and to understand the experience of being displaced. This is turn will hopefully inspire the next generation to be part of an inclusive and empathetic society.' — Tobi, AccessArt

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Expressive Painting & Colour Mixing

What We Like About This Post: "I love that this activity introduces students to colour mixing in a fun and interactive way, steering away from the more formal colour wheel and promoting a more intuitive way of colour mixing. The use of sketchbooks also gives students the opportunity to curate their work, nurturing the individuals creative decision making.' – Tobi, AccessArt

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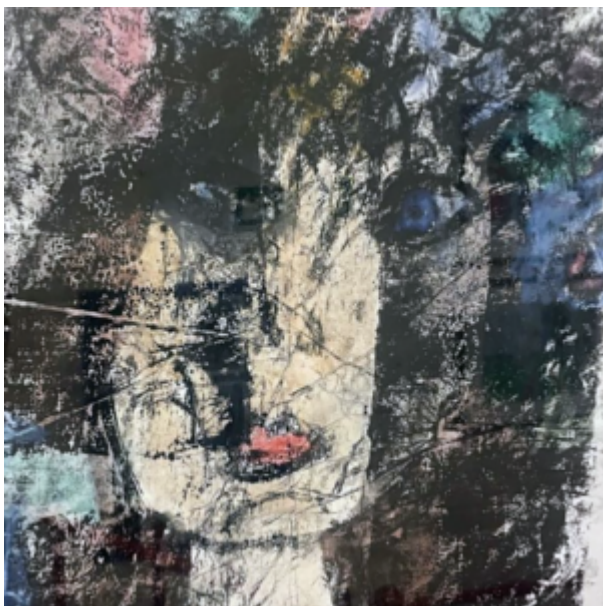

Green Thumbs

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Creating Repeat Patterns With Rachel Parker

What We Like About This Resource…

"This is a great activity for really tuning into colour and shape. The process is ultimately quite a refined one (ie making a pattern balanced and repeated 'correctly') — but there's plenty of scope for exploring pattern in a more experiential way prior to the refinement page. Try one of the recommended resources below to introduce pattern and begin with some open ended activities to build skill and confidence." — Andrea, AccessArt

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Pathway: Exploring pattern

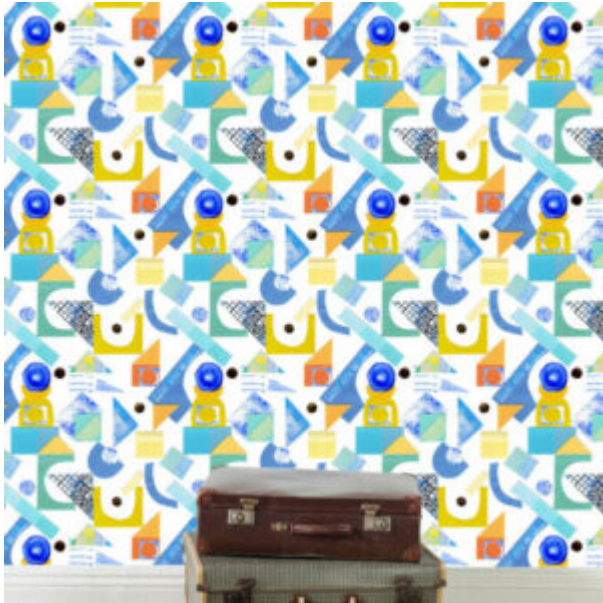[This is featured in the 'Exploring Pattern' pathway](#)

Talking points: Andy Gilmore

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Still Life Compositions: Inspired by Cezanne

What We Like About This Resource….

"This activity walks through a number of different processes and taps into multiple skills.This provides a rich exploratory project for children to fully immerse themselves in. Cezanne was the focus artist for this project, but other contemporary still life painters could be used as starter inspiration. We actually advocate showing the work of more than one artist as this builds

knowledge of how approaches to painting, drawing etc differ. This also helps children move towards a personal response rather than creating a 'copy' of one particular artist's work" – Rachel, AccessArt

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Pathway: Exploring Still Life

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Talking Points: Paul Cezanne

talking points: Contemporary still life

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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.
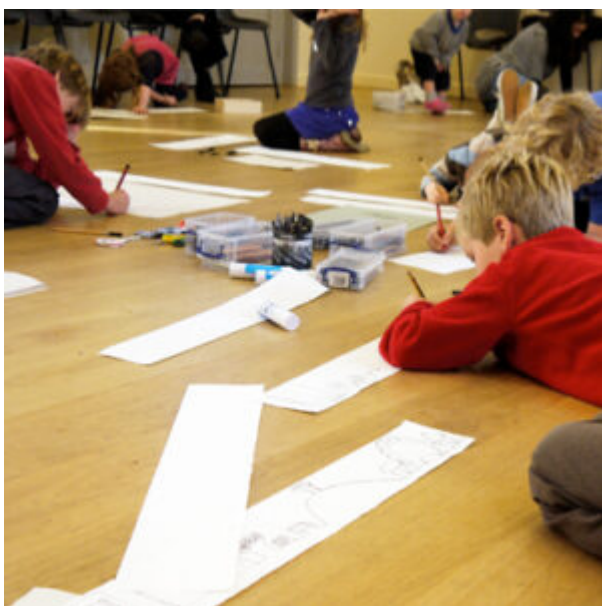
In this case, children are encouraged to have a loose approach and to make their own creative decisions — which is such a valuable part of any child (or adults!) creative education". — *Rachel, AccessArt*

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