

Our Creative Community: Top Tips for Facilitating an Island Thinking Workshop

[By Natalie Deane](#)

In the first session of the pupil-directed '[Our Creative Community](#)' project series, Natalie Deane shares some helpful tips enabling you to facilitate an [Island Thinking Skills Workshop](#) to introduce children to local artists living and working in your area.

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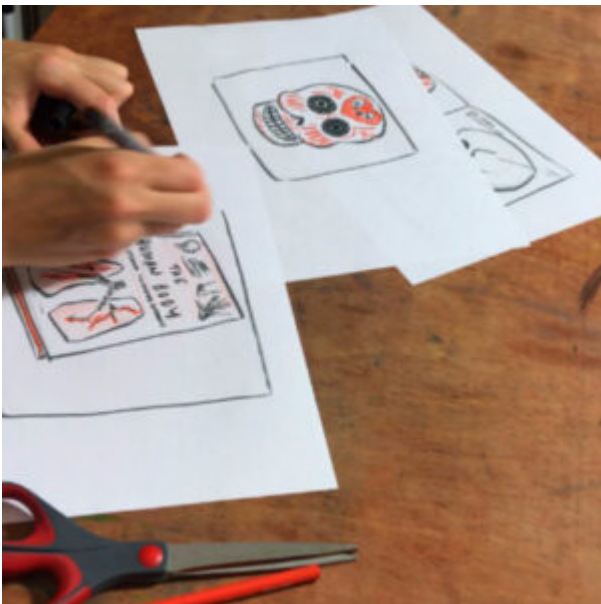
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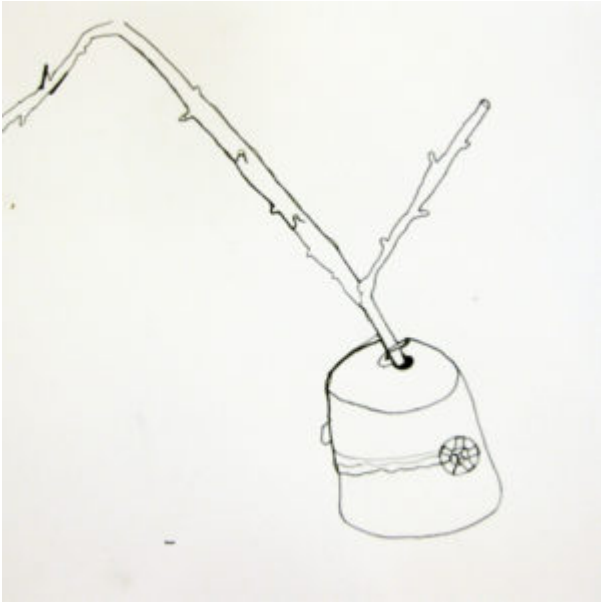
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What We Like About This Resource...

“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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“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 in 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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