

Talking Points: Matisse Cut Outs

How do the colours and shapes in an artwork change the way you feel about it?

Henri Matisse was a highly influential figure in modern art, celebrated for his bold and playful use of colour and form. A painter and sculptor, he later created paper cut-outs, transforming the practice of collage.

Explore his cut outs using the sources below, then discuss the questions provided.

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AGES 5-8

AGES 9-11

AGES 11-14

AGES 14-16

FREE TO ACCESS

Painting with Scissors: Cut Outs by Matisse

Enjoy the videos below to understand what we Matisse meant by “Painting with Scissors” and to understand how revolutionary his cut outs were at the time.

See a [Visual History Of Matisse's work at Google Arts & Culture here](#).

The video below is an animation made using cut outs by Matisse, animated by Beatriz Rosa.

Questions to Ask Children

How do you think the size of the scissors matisse used affected the artwork he created?

Do you think Matisse drew on the paper first before he cut the shapes out?

Do you think Matisse had a “plan” in his head when

he picked up coloured paper and scissors?

Matisse was old and ill when he made the cut outs.
Can you tell that from the energy of the work?

How big would you like to work?

What do you think Matisse would have thought about
the animation made by Beatriz Rosa?

This Talking Points Is Used In...

Pathway: working with shape and colour



This is featured in the 'Working with
Shape and Colour' pathway

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



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