

Torn Paper Pictures

This project lets students work without scissors, using their fingers as tools. Papers are torn into shapes and then used to create an image that is a clearly defined and recognizable subject. The lesson also includes the collage technique of overlapping papers to unify the pieces of the design.

Grade Levels K-4

Note: instructions and materials based on a class of 25 students. Adjust as needed.

Process

1. Students choose one sheet of construction paper for background. Sketch image in pencil onto background sheet.
2. Using shared scraps, tear shapes that correspond to the shapes in the sketch. Compare sketch and torn piece regularly as the shape is developed to match the original sketch as closely as possible.
3. Glue the torn pieces to the appropriate areas of the design. Using a brush to apply glue helps keep the project clean.

Options

- Grades 8-12 may use decorative papers to apply in collage
- Use texture plates on a variety of papers then tear
- Ask students to bring in light weight papers from home to add to the construction paper



Materials

[Blick Construction Paper](#), 50-sheet package assorted colors (11409-1003) 9" x 12", need one full sheet and assorted scraps per student

[Blick All-Purpose Glue](#) 8-oz (23872-1065), share one bottle between two students

[Reeves® Hog Bristle Brush School Pack](#) (06004-2003) share one 144-piece set across classroom

[Blick Economy Graphite Pencils](#) (20302-2009), package of 12, need one per student

Resources:

[Collage Techniques](#) by Gerald Brommer (71628-1001)

[Collage Methods](#) by Gerald Brommer DVD - (69967-1001)

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National Standards

Content Standard #1 — Understanding and applying media, techniques and processes.

K-4 Students use art materials and tools in a safe and responsible manner

Content Standard #2 — Using knowledge of structures and functions

K-4 Students use visual structures and functions of art to communicate ideas