

CORBAN ESTATE ARTS CENTRE

The Cereal Box Series

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THE CEREAL BOX SERIES



Tēnā koe!

Jean from the Corban Estate Art Centre team here again, with a new activity for you. This one is all about COLLAGE. Collage is when we cut or rip lots of different kinds of paper or card up into pieces and glue them down in a new way to create a picture.



These are very unusual times. Being a kid having to stay at home in your bubble is an experience that you will be able to tell people about for years to come. With this project we are learning a new way to document or record our experiences. The materials we are using to create our artworks tell their own story. Like clues in a puzzle when we use packets from the things we have been eating at home, or newspapers from this time, we are documenting our present reality.

To begin we need to find the source material that we are going to use. Try to find a mix of bright shiny stuff and also duller more subtle colours and prints.



Here are some examples of materials I have found around my home that could be useful.

Shiny bright stuff: cereal boxes, Easter egg boxes, Easter egg wrappings, shiny magazine covers and pages, cracker boxes, taco boxes, any cardboard food packaging, tissue boxes, old wrapping paper.



Duller soft stuff: rubbings, newspaper writing and pictures, brown paper bags, old faded paintings on paper, eco dyed paper from a previous CEAC Adventure or last year's Yellow Pages.

You will also need a pencil, a few bigger pieces of card to use as a background, scissors and glue.

Sometimes not having access to a huge amount of fancy art materials can be an advantage. It makes you resourceful. You have to spend time figuring out how to make the simple things work and on the way make some interesting discoveries.

Now that we have our selection of materials it's time to move on to creating a collage art work.

Are you ready?

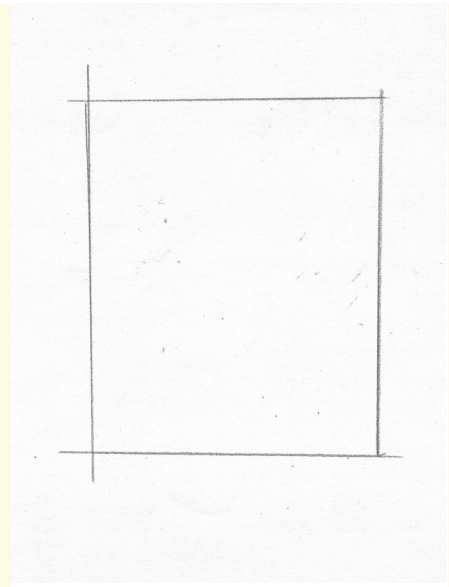
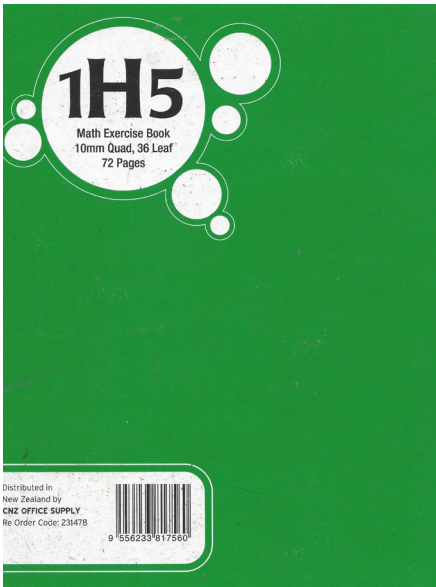
Jean Stewart (2020).



Have you been sitting and looking out your window much lately just watching as the world goes by? Do you ever imagine that you are looking out at something completely different? Today we are going to capture that imagined view in an artwork.

Today I imagine looking out at a beautiful beach of the Pacific. Yesterday I was looking out from a bright yellow room at one of Monet's lily ponds (Monet is one of my favourite painters). Tomorrow I'll be looking out my submarine hatch at fish swimming by.

This workshop is all about contrast - the way different materials have a different visual language (look different to each other). We will be using the bright colours from food packaging or magazine covers and contrasting them with the duller colours from newspapers or rubbings.



The first step is to find a piece of card to use as a base. I used the cover off an old school workbook but one side of a Weetbix box or something like that would work just as well. Draw the outline of your window onto the card. Remember to leave some space around your window too.

The view outside our window is further away from us than the inside of the room we are standing in. When things are further away they become lighter because there is more air between us and what we are looking at. The air kind of whitens things out. So when collaging the view we want to stick to materials that aren't too bright or intense in colour.

Colours printed onto newspaper have a softness which is perfect for the distance effect. You could also use rubbings or old brown paper bags or old faded paintings you did two years ago or the eco dyed papers from last week's workshop.

If you could look out your window today and see anything at all what would you like to see?



Begin to cut glue and paste your pieces down inside your window outline. There are lots of different ways to build up your scene you can cut out actual shapes of things or use tiny ripped up bits to build up the different areas in your picture. You can glue bits down without any spacing or leave gaps for the background colour to come through. You can also glue bits on top of others until you get to what you're looking for.

It's starting to get a bit colder here in Auckland but I like to imagine that it is the middle of summer and out my window is the beach of a beautiful Island of the Pacific. This is my imagined view made up of bits of newspaper. It's amazing how many colours you can find in a newspaper.

What did you see out your window? How did your view turn out?

Now we will contrast the distance of what is outside our window with the up closeness of the inside of the room we are in. Most of the food boxes in my cupboards are made with very brightly coloured cardboard. Lots of shiny kikorangi, whero and kowhai , also a bit of bright kakariki on the Cornflakes box and a precious little bit of karera (light green) on the Sultana Bran.

Advertisers use this bright intense colouring so that things will pop out at your eyes when you are in the supermarket. Today we are going to use these bright shiny colours to decorate the inside of our pictured room so that they will pop forward, and make our view feel like it is in fact further away. Shiny magazine covers would also be a good material for this stage.



Cut out and glue down your window frame using the bright packaging.

Do you have curtains? Or perhaps just a bare window frame with a big window sill?

Jean Stewart (2020).



Now to decorate your inside walls remember to still use the bright stuff. Think about wild wallpaper patterns. What can you come up with?

Then can you make them even more intense? Can you see how the bright packaging makes the inside of the room look like it is front of the view outside?

What did you find out your window? I'd love to see! If you do want to share your artwork you can post it at [#CEACAdventures](https://www.instagram.com/CEACAdventures)

Are you keen for more collage?

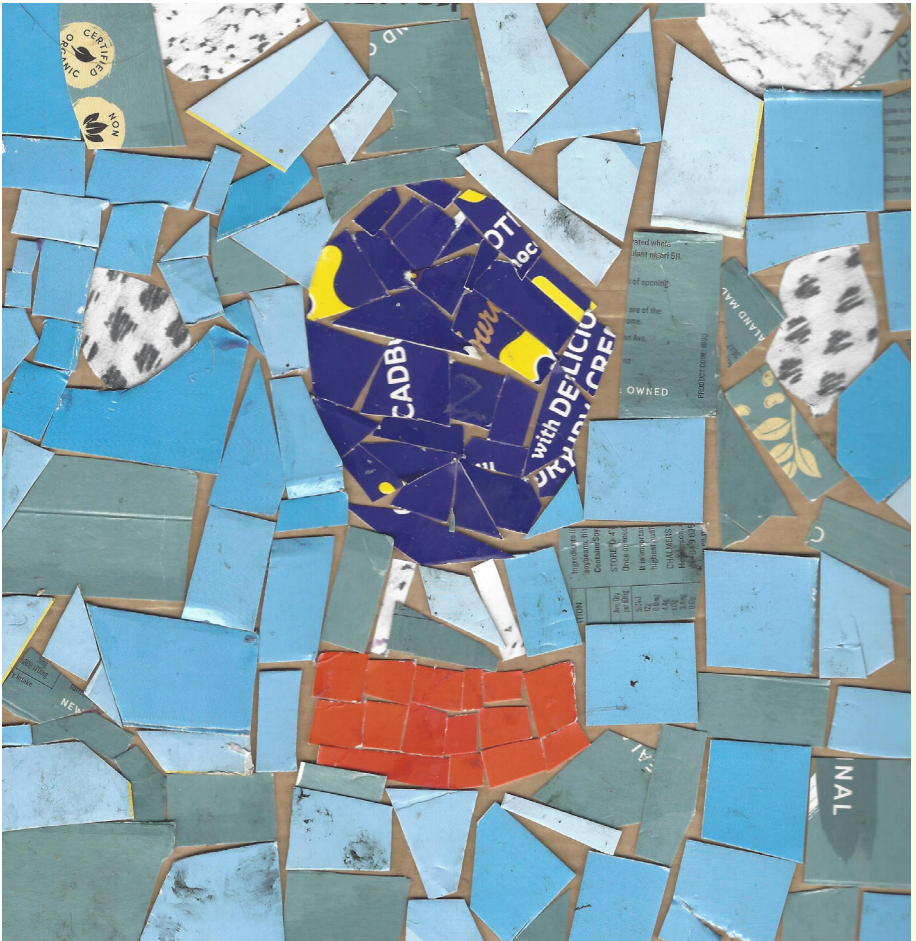


Free range collage

Try making up any kind of picture you like, just try to keep it all collage. Remember what we learnt in the last exercise about using a contrast of bright materials and duller ones. Remember too all the different ways that you can stick things down using patterns, big and small bits or cutting out actual shapes to stick down.

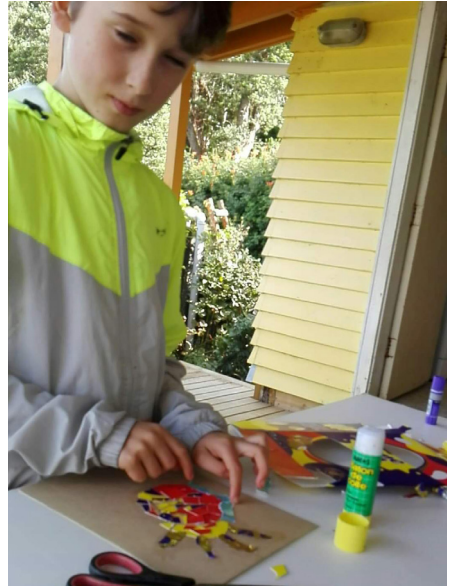
You can end up with very sticky gluey fingers and sometimes it takes longer than expected to get things right. Remember that you don't have to finish it all at once, come back to it tomorrow if you have had enough and I'm sure you are all experts at hand washing these days.

Jean Stewart (2020).



Hot air balloon by an unidentified 12 year old.

Jean Stewart (2020).



This picture was done by lah (age 10) one way up it is a crazy face falling through space turning it around it looks like a happy jellyfish swimming in the ocean.

Jean Stewart (2020).



An autumn scene, with a sneaky putiputi pohutakawa that really shouldn't be there at this time of year. By Jean (age unknown!).

What did you create with collage when you let your imagination loose? I would love to see!

If you do want to share your artwork you can post it at **#CEACAdventures**

Thanks for joining me on this adventure see you next time.

E noho rā
Jean



Jean is a member of the CEAC education team. She is also a practicing artist. Currently she is at home with her two boys and partner. Every morning she gets up and jumps on the trampoline to wake herself up.



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