

Imaginary Landscapes

By Tobi Meuwissen

Explore landscape through tactile mark-making and collage. This resource is part of a series of resources created by AccessArt aimed at early stage exploration of ideas and materials for Early Years Foundation Stage, Special Educational Needs & Disabilities and Young Children.

This activity begins by inviting pupils to make marks directly into paint using their fingers and other mark-making tools. They then use these painted sheets to create an imagined landscape, by cutting and ripping the paper into different shapes, resulting in individual and creative collages.

Join AccessArt to watch the full video.

You will need:

- Poster paint
- PVA glue
- Paint brushes and other mark-making tools
- Drawing materials (colour pencils, felt-tips,

wax crayons, chalk pastels)

- Scissors

- Glue stick

Part One: Painting & Mark-Making

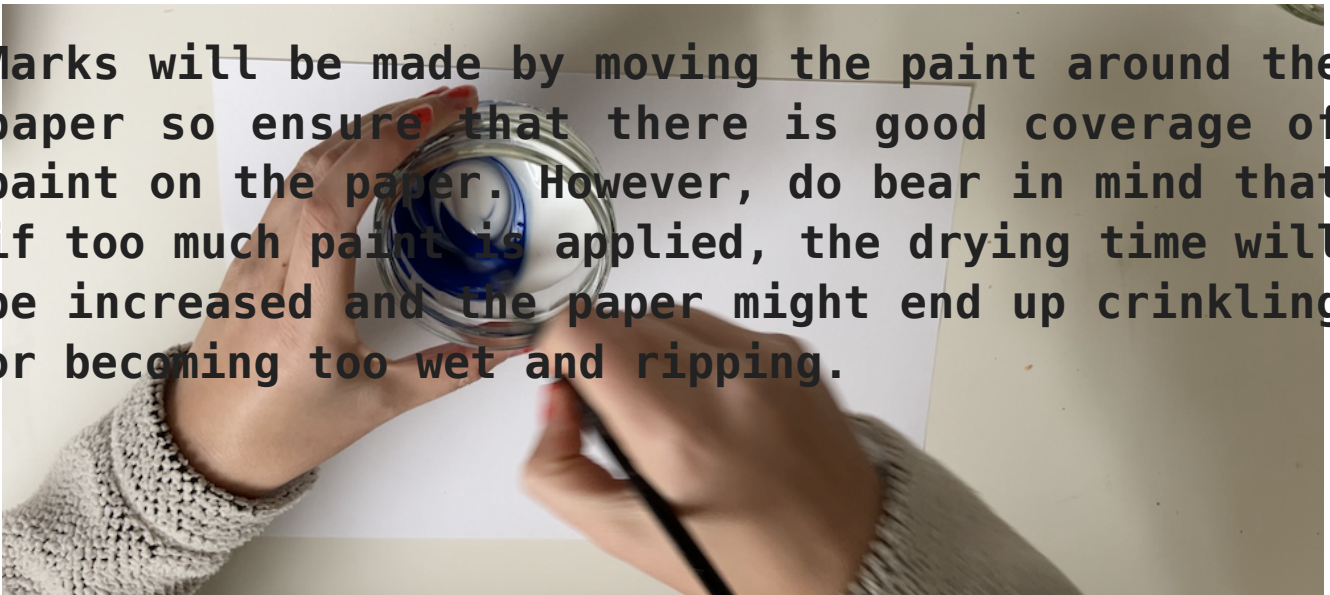
To Begin:

Mix poster paint with PVA glue. The ratio of paint to glue used is 1:1.

Depending on the ability of your class, you may want to prepare this in a variety of colours for students to use.

Once this has been fully mixed together, invite students to cover their paper in paint. They can use large paintbrushes for quick application or pour the mixture out first before spreading on the page.

Marks will be made by moving the paint around the paper so ensure that there is good coverage of paint on the paper. However, do bear in mind that if too much paint is applied, the drying time will be increased and the paper might end up crinkling or becoming too wet and ripping.



Once the whole page is covered, children can begin to make marks directly into the paint using body parts such as their fingers or other mark-making tools, for example the end of paintbrushes and bits of cut up card.



This bit can get messy!



Repeat the process with different colours and a variety of marks.



If you feel that pupils are able to, you may want to introduce some colour mixing too.

Basic primary colour mixing:

Yellow + Blue = Green

Red + Yellow = Orange

Blue + Red = Purple



Mixing red and green to make a forest green



When all of the sheets have been decorated with patterns and marks leave them to dry overnight. The drying times will vary according to how thickly the paint was applied.

Part Two: Collaging

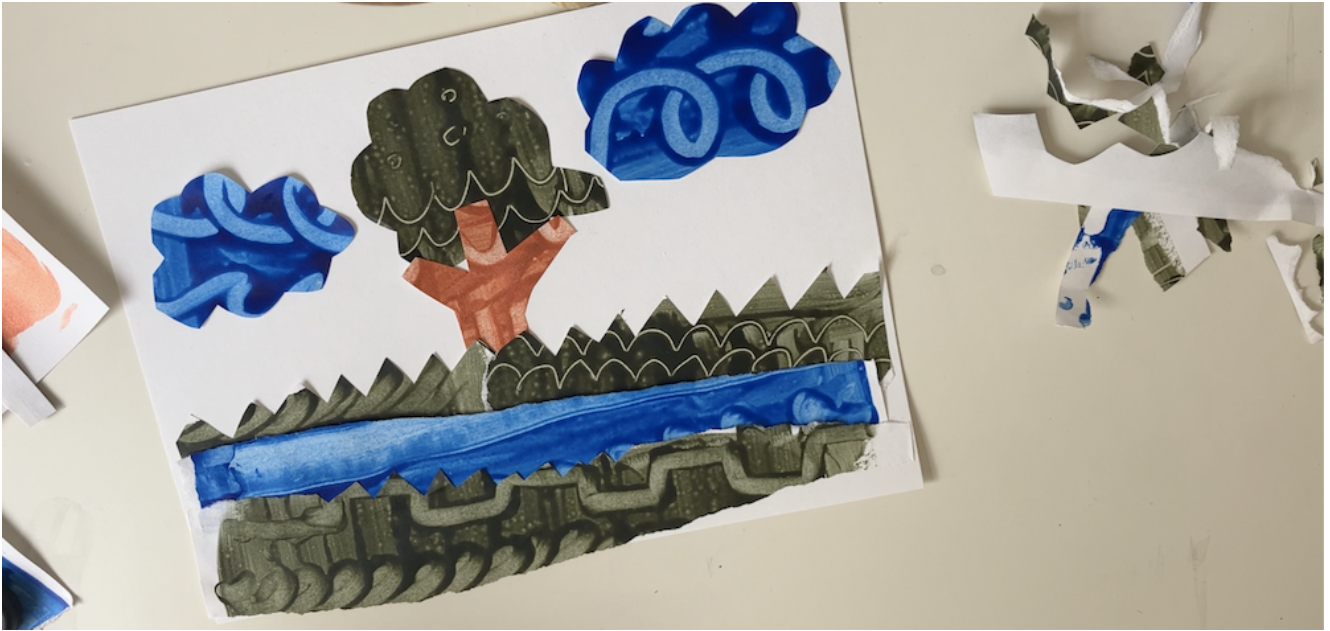
Invite children to imagine a landscape, it might be a place they are familiar with such as a park, a forest or a beach; it could be a made-up landscape from a different planet.

Next, they will cut and rip into the sheets of paper to make the different elements of their landscapes.





When they are happy with their collages they can stick them down using a glue stick.



Part Three: Adding Detail

To finish off the collages, invite children to add details using drawing materials.

Start by asking them to test out materials on scrap bits of the painted paper to see which materials they think work the best. They might make choices according to which material is the most visible or which material feels nicest to work with?

Children might like to stick these samples into their sketchbooks.



When they have decided which drawing materials they would like to use, it's time to add in the detail over their collages!

Celebrate the work by inviting students to walk around the classroom and see the collages made by their classmates too!



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