

Worksheet 1 – Art Making

Materials

Crayons or oil pastels, watercolors or watercolor pencils, watercolor paper or heavy white or natural colored stock (recycled file folders), scissors

Optional materials: small magnets and metal object, thin rods such as bamboo skewers (ends clipped), folded card strips, double-sided thick tape.

Steps

1. Create a work of art that uses a natural habitat that appeals to you. It may be a rainforest, a temperate forest, a desert, the Arctic, a meadow, a pond, river, an ocean, etc. Be creative and remember to include important natural elements of the habitat you choose.
2. Plan what object(s) you are going to move through or within your scene. Once this is decided, plan parts of your habitat that can be created on card and raised from the background.
3. Decide on habitat. Decide on elements to include. Which elements are part of the background? Which elements are raised above the background? Which element(s) move(s)?
4. Create one moving part on heavy card. Outline it in heavy crayon or pastel. Use the crayon or pastel to add important features. Use watercolor to add color to your movable piece. Cut out your movable piece and decide what method you will use to make it move.
5. On your background draw some natural features in crayon or pastel.
 - Use all the space on your paper.
 - Keep objects large enough to be seen.
 - Overlap objects to make them interesting.
 - Make at least one feature of your habitat appear only partly on the background.
 - Because you want your attached and movable pieces to stand out more than your background, mute your background. (Use lighter, less intense color.) Avoid too much detail.
6. On card stock, create plants, a rock, or another creature that will not move but at times appear in front of your movable object. Decide on a suitable method for attaching this feature.

Attaching methods

- Double-sided foam tape or dots
- Card stock folded and glued to both the background and the raised features

Moving methods

- Attach a small magnet/piece of metal to the back of your movable, use a magnet behind the background to move the movable
 - Attach a thin rod to the back of your movable, be sure your rod is long enough that your hand does not show in front of the habitat.
7. Cut a short slit in your background where you want the movement to start. Cut a slit the same size where the action ends. Cut a narrow strip (a little smaller than the slits in the background) from a sheet of acetate. Be sure this strip is at least three times as long as the distance of the movement. Attach your movable 1/3 of the distance along the acetate. Slip the two ends of the acetate into the slits in the background.
 8. Tape or glue invisible thread or fishing line onto the movable in several places.