

STEM



Surrealistic Collage



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1900 Dalrymple Drive
Baton Rouge, LA 70808

Knock Knock Children's Museum is a community spark for engaging, playful learning experiences that inspire and support lifelong learning.

Surrealistic Collage

Age Level: 4 and up | Lesson Duration: Unlimited
Learning Zone: Art Garden & STEAM Activity | Subject: Surrealism

[WATCH THE VIDEO LESSON HERE!](#)

Materials Needed:

- Solid colored paper
- Photocopied pictures
- Scissors
- Glue stick

Louisiana Standards:

VA-CE-E1, VA-CE-E%, VA-CE-H5, VA-Ap-E5, VA-HP-E1, VA-HP-E4, VA-HP-E6

Louisiana's Birth to 5 Early Learning & Development Standards:

CC2, CM2, CM3, CM4, PM2

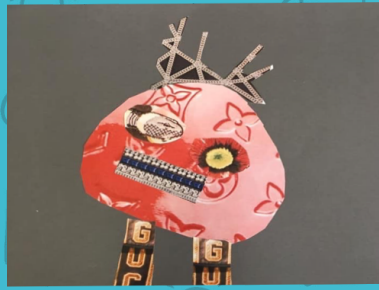
Learning Objectives:

Have you ever had a dream or watched a movie where everything looked strange, not like what we see in the "real" world? Maybe the houses were tiny, people were giant, or spiders were teachers and the streets were made of ice cream. 100 years ago, artists created artwork that was inspired by their crazy dreams, this art is called Surrealism.

The word "Surreal" means putting strange or unlikely things together into strange combinations.

Salvador Dali was a famous Spanish artist who created Surrealistic paintings including "Persistence of Memory" (far left) that features melting clocks and strange objects that look like they came out of a dream. Today, artists like Rashaad Newsome from New Orleans create surrealist art using photographs of objects that represent money (see far right). Rashaad cuts out pictures of luxury (very expensive) objects (cars, jewelry) from magazines and arranges them into symmetrical compositions (designs where both sides are the same). He is famous for putting materials together in new ways which make us think about how these ridiculously expensive objects have become something that people want but don't really need.

Art always tells a story. Sometimes the story is easy to understand, but sometimes it requires you to use your imagination and experience to "read" it.



What's the STEM in this?

"Collage" is an art technique that uses existing materials put together in new ways. It requires skills to create a design and can be as simple or complex as you choose. The word "Collage" comes from the French word Collere which means "to glue." Collage is a fun art activity that uses simple materials that you have around your house like old magazines, letters, newspapers, fabric, wrapping paper, food packages, or even "clean" trash you collect on the street.

Steps:

- Take a look at all the materials.
- The square paper is for the background.
- Look at the photocopied sheets, and begin cutting out shapes, like circles and rectangles, or elements like letters and objects that interest you.
- Arrange paper pieces on your background paper to create a design. For example, a person, a landscape, an animal or just put the cut outs together to create an abstract design.
- Once you like your design, begin gluing down the paper.
- Look through scraps, for example the parts of the paper that you cut around to find negative space (the area left after cutting something out). These scraps can be used to create interesting layering effects.
- Take a look, are you happy with your design? Or, do you want to add a more elements?
- When you are done, sign your name on the back of the paper or bottom edge. Add the date.
- Cap your glue stick. Clean up scraps, save pieces that you can use again for another collage!
- Show your Surrealistic Collage to someone in your family and ask them what they see.
- Create more collages with left over materials - or see below for more ideas.

Follow Up Activities:

Keep making collages with some of the other materials in your kit or find items in your house that you can use. Did you know that some of the best art is created during difficult times? Making art is a great way to express how you feel without using your words. And, Collage is a technique that only needs glue, paper and scissors (if you do not have scissors, you can always tear the paper).

More Information:

For more ideas on how to do this activity visit www.knockknockmuseum.org/learningresources, then click on the link for "Surrealistic Collage."

You can also search online using the keyword "Surrealism" to see 1000s of images of Surrealist Art. You can learn more about the history of Surrealism or learn more about the lives and artwork of Salvador Dali or Rashaad Newsome.

If you are stuck, want help or are interested in other ideas to make, email or call Ms. Lucy at lperera@knockknockmuseum.org or call 575-613-0026.

HAVE FUN & CREATE! Tag #knockknocktogo and #knockknockchildrensmuseum to share your artwork online.