

# COLLAGE METHODS



**CFE 3223V**

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OPEN CAPTIONED  
CRYSTAL PRODUCTIONS

1994

Grade Levels: 4-13+

29 minutes

## DESCRIPTION

The art of collage is demonstrated by using four techniques. Gerald Brommer models working with transparent paper in a still life. He clusters fractured letters taken from a name into a collage form. Stained papers collaged and enhanced by paint are used to depict partially integrated collage. An autobiographical photo montage is developed. Experimentation and techniques can be combined to allow for personal creativity and expression. ART IS . . . SERIES.

## INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

- To demonstrate four techniques of collage making.
- To introduce three categories of collage making: pure collage, partially integrated collage, and fully integrated collage.
- To locate photographic images of items, pictures, or photographs which are representational of personal preferences.
- To stimulate creativity through making collages.

## BEFORE SHOWING

1. Preview the video to determine unfamiliar vocabulary and language concepts.
2. Compare transparent and opaque paper, and identify qualities of each type of paper.
3. Compare transparent and opaque paint.
4. Review the *cruciform* shape and identify advantages of using this shape in a picture or collage.
5. Experiment with watercolors and tissue paper:
  - a. Staining or painting the tissue paper.
  - b. Overlapping to mix colors.
  - c. Varying color brightness and intensity using watercolors or thinned tempera paint.
  - d. Manipulating transparency qualities to have shapes show through to create new shapes or lines.

6. Arrange art supplies for immediate use after each video demonstration:

✂ **STAINED TISSUE PAPER STILL-LIFE COLLAGE**

- a. Assorted tissue paper
- b. Watercolor set and brush
- c. Paper toweling
- d. Typing or tracing paper
- e. Adhesive mixture--half glue and half water combined
- f. Brush for adhesive
- g. Pencil
- h. Lightweight, white cardboard called *railroad board*
- i. Black marker
- j. Black tempera paint
- k. Mat board

✂ **FRACTURED LETTER COLLAGE**

- a. 10" x 14" piece of railroad board
- b. 6" x 10" piece of black paper
- c. Glue
- d. Various colors of coated paper
- e. Scissors
- f. Pencil
- g. Glue stick
- h. Old telephone book
- i. Mat board

✂ **PARTIALLY INTEGRATED COLLAGE WITH A FLOWER MOTIF**

- a. Tissue paper
- b. Watercolors and brush
- c. Paper toweling
- d. Tempera paint and brush
- e. Railroad board
- f. Mat board

## ✂ AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL PHOTO COLLAGE

- a. Spotlight or flashlight
  - b. White paper or tracing paper
  - c. Tape
  - d. White or light-colored pencil
  - e. Scissors or razor knife
  - f. Black paper
  - g. White railroad board
  - h. Glue stick
  - i. Old telephone book
  - j. Mat board
  - k. Various magazines, books, newspapers, and others to be used for locating photographs
7. Locate and assemble renderings of abstract works of art for reference and discussion of:
- a. Pure collage
  - b. Partially integrated collage
  - c. Fully integrated collage

## AFTER SHOWING

### Discussion Items and Questions

1. Define *collage*.
2. Recall the three categories of collage. Define each of the three categories.
3. Process is an important factor in creating collages. List three tips Brommer gives to achieve successful collage building.
4. Describe what *fracturing* means in relation to the letter collage Brommer demonstrated in the video.
5. Generate a list of materials which could be used in collage building.

### Applications and Activities

1. Experiment with various collage projects. Review a specific segment before attempting the project, to clarify the techniques involved.
2. Assemble examples of stained-glass art prior to creating the stained tissue paper collage. Determine the effect line definition has on the total piece.

3. Locate collage renderings by the following artists:
  - a. Pablo Picasso
  - b. Georges Braque
  - c. Romare Beardon
  - d. Robert Rauschenberg
  - e. Stuart Davis
4. Research the beginning of collage and its progression from 1906 to the present.
5. Stain tissue paper, paper toweling, and opaque paper with watercolors, and dry them.
  - a. Intensify them by adding more watercolor paint.
  - b. Paint on the reverse side of the paper.
  - c. Intensify by adding water-thinned tempera paint.
  - d. Add a different color to the original to create a variance of color.
6. Arrange a palette of colors composed of stained papers.
7. Duplicate letter fracturing as demonstrated on the video. Experiment with these optional placements of the letter pieces, then display the results.
  - a. Intentionally arrange the pieces.
  - b. Toss pieces onto the black paper.
  - c. Align edges of the fractured letters so they are touching.
  - d. Align edges, leaving a background space between pieces.
  - e. Overlap the fractured pieces.
  - f. Cluster the letter pieces.
8. Create an acrostic. Using each letter from the name collaged, compose a trait or quality which describes that person.
9. Duplicate the letter-fracturing collage implementing:
  - a. Warm colors
  - b. Cool colors
  - c. Color mixture
10. Combine at least two methods in creating a collage, and categorize the type created.

11. Sequence the steps of creating a still-life collage.
12. Relate collage to literature. Research illustrators who employ methods of collage as a way to illustrate books.
13. Design and create an autobiographical photo collage. Describe reasons for adding photographs to make the collage unique.
14. Identify two artists who experimented in collage in the early 1900s, and discuss how their work has affected collage from then to the present.
15. A collage by Romare Beardon deals with the African-American society in New York City. Obtain, display, and interpret this collage.

### **WEBSITES**

Explore the Internet to discover sites related to this topic. Check the CFV website for related information (<http://www.cfv.org>).

### **SUMMARY**

The art of collage is the focus of Gerald Brommer's video. In simple terms, *collage* is gluing paper onto paper or some other background. Demonstrations of projects depict collage categories. The categories are *pure collage*, *partially integrated collage*, and *fully integrated collage*.

First, Brommer demonstrates a stained tissue paper process. He paints tissue paper with watercolors and allows them to dry. He then draws shapes or images onto typing paper, transfers this onto the stained tissue paper, and cuts them out. A modified cruciform serves as a background on lightweight cardboard. After he uses trial arrangements to determine a desired picture, he uses an adhesive of glue and water. Through the gluing process, color combinations and overlapping occur due to the transparency of the paper. A mat can be placed on the finished collage, or black marker and tempera paint can be added to achieve a stained-glass effect.

Brommer displays a collage by Stuart Davis to depict small shapes on large shapes which seem organized, yet chaotic. He glues a 6" x 10" dark, organizing shape onto a railroad board. He then uses brightly colored paper to cut out the letters in the artist's name. Each letter is cut into three pieces, producing fractured shapes. Variations of placement of the small shapes onto the large ones comprise the collage. A mat board defines the collage. He shows other variations of this project.

The next project involves staining, gluing, and painting papers used to create a vase of flowers. The artist uses various papers and paints to provide contrasting materials with transparent and opaque qualities. He implements previous staining techniques to achieve a palette of colors reflecting the subject matter. He tears dry stained papers into pieces. By gluing random pieces, colors and forms appear simply by their placement onto the background. Paint embellishes the collage by changing the color intensity, shapes, edges, and focus of the picture. A mat board finishes the collage.

The final project is an autobiographical photo collage. This process combines a silhouette and photographic images. A silhouette of the artist is made on black paper. This is the background for the project. The artist collects pictures and items that have personal meaning and reflect personal interests. Trial arrangements of the material should be done prior to gluing. When an arrangement is satisfactory, glue the pictures to become a part of the profile.

Brommer summarizes the types of collage demonstrated in the video. He offers suggestions to combine materials and methods in experimenting in the art of collage making.