Session 6 Tearing and contrasting Practical activities

Have lots of collage papers available for children to make choices.

Background paper can be any contrasting tones, so that any gaps left by the children will appear as a colour.

Torn-paper collage

Show the children how to tear a variety of small, medium and large shapes, stressing that the edges will be totally different from the sharp, cut edges that they have already used in other works.

Ask the children to fill the background paper with the torn pieces of collage paper, which should also be of a contrasting tone. Some children may want to glue each individual piece, whilst others may wish to cover an area of the background paper with glue and add several pieces at the same time. Encourage them to try both methods!

Show the children how to add thin black paper strips (pre-cut) to the collage, horizontally and vertically, and refer to their previous work in the style of Mondrian. Then use the strips diagonally as well.

Some children may be able to understand and use only diagonal strips in their work.

Ask the children to do this activity carefully. Ask if they can see any similarities with the work they have done previously.

Black and white collage

Ask the children to tear strips of black paper and strips of white paper (contrasting tones), and to stick them down diagonally on a background of the opposite colour, i.e. black strips on white paper, and white strips on black paper.

Leaves and flowers collage

Ask the children to look at some plants and talk about the shapes and colours of the leaves and flowers.

Ask them to tear the coloured papers into leaf and flower shapes and to stick them down onto a background paper.

Assessment opportunities

- Are the children able to use their fingers to tear a variety of shapes in different sizes, and to glue them down successfully?
- Are the children able to select and glue down the thin paper strips using different directions and angles on top of the torn collage?
- Can the children tear shapes to resemble the plants?
- Do they see any relationship to their previous work?

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Black strips of paper stuck onto a white background



White strips of paper stuck onto a black background

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Leaves and flowers in torn paper

Evaluation

How did the activity go?