



Collage and Mixed Media is combining and piecing together different materials which can add interest and depth to artwork. Layering and using a variety of materials can also keep a student's interest longer and possibly increase his/her attention span. There are many options for materials for texture.

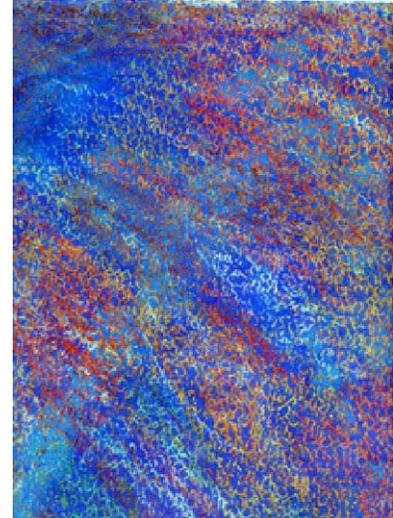


Carefully choose adhesives for the materials you want to combine. Regular white glue works well for most papers, some fabrics, and wood. Students may use glue sticks if the paper is thinner. If you are gluing felt it is best to use fabric glue. Use colored glue to add color within the artwork or to increase student's motivation to independently glue. Adhesive backed papers may be used in place of glue.



1. Falling Leaves

This art project will take several sessions to complete. Many of the artworks my students create include experiences from their life. During the fall season in Wisconsin there are incredible opportunities to learn about nature. I am only sharing part of my lesson (the art making process) as a lesson idea.

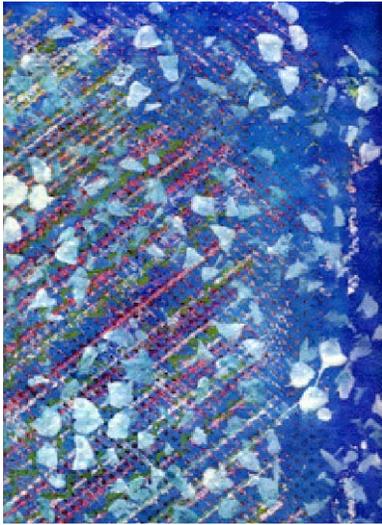


Background for Collage

Use crayons to complete a texture rubbing. You may use Muff-N-Tin Crayons™. Over the top of the crayon work add watercolor paint.

For ideas on painting and brushes, view Lesson Ideas for Painting and Tools to Make, Funky Brush.





Sometimes we add another layer of paint. This is white tempera paint added with a textured sponge brush. This painting technique reminded several students of snowflakes. This background is set aside to dry and stored until the leaf shapes are made.



Scratch Art for Leaf Shapes

Have students color with crayons on tag board. It is best to use firm pressure when applying the color. Students who fatigue easily or do not have the physical strength will require help.



Paint black tempera over the top of the crayon work. We used 3 coats of paint allowing each layer to dry. Scratch Art paper can be purchased as an adaptation for students with physical limitations.



After experiencing real leaves, studying leaf shapes, and leaf textures students draw their own shapes on the back of their scratch art. Shapes were then cut out and the designs were scratched into the black paint. For students who need assistance drawing leaf shapes also try leaf cookie cutters or artificial leaves.



Combine Background and Scratch Art Leaves

On the back of the leaf shapes glue pieces of cardboard. Use one or more layers.



Arrange and glue the leaf shapes onto the background painting. The leaf shapes will appear to be falling or floating in the sky with the layers of cardboard on the backside.