

Newark Community Art Club with Elaine Winter
Spring Term 2021 Session 14 (for the academic year 2020/21):

Pattern, Collage and Still Life Part 1

Materials needed:

White paper printer paper x several sheets – ideally around 6+

Pencil

Ruler

Rubber

Coloured pencils or ideally coloured felt-tips

Water colour paints or poster paints and a brush if you have them

If you have a candle or some wax crayons you can use this too.

Thin card (saved from a cereal box or similar)

Something to make a stamp from such as half a potato or a washing up sponge

Scissors

Introduction: This is the first part of a two-part process where you will eventually make a still life collage from patterned paper you have made yourself. This session is all about making the patterned sheets first so that you have your own original collage papers to use. Next week will be about how to make use of these patterned sheets to create a brilliant still life collage.

Activity 1: Pattern is all around us in our homes so take a look around you and you will find some inspiration for patterns to make. You may see patterns like stripes, checks, patterns with a motif like flowers, spot patterns, geometric patterns. Look at the patterns on clothes, fabrics at home like curtains, carpets, wallpaper. Make some initial drawings from these patterns.

Activity 2: Now make your patterned sheets. See this list below for suggestions of ways to make your patterned sheets using different techniques. What you can use will, of course, depend on what you have to hand at home.

1) Stripes with felt-tip pens

Materials: Sheet of paper, coloured felt-tip pens, ruler

What to do: Choose the colours you would like for your striped pattern and work out the widths of the stripes. Are you going to have a repeating pattern on your stripes? If so, keep an eye on that and take care to keep to that pattern.

2) Checks with felt tip pens or paint

Materials: Sheet of paper, coloured felt-tip pens (or you could use paints if you have them and feel confident with painting in straight lines), ruler

What to do: Choose the colours you would like for your check pattern and work out the width of the vertical and horizontal lines that make up the checks. The colours you choose for the vertical and horizontal stripes and lines will result in some exciting new colours when the vertical and horizontal stripes overlap and make new mixed colours.

3) Wax resist pattern

Materials: Sheet of paper, wax candle or wax crayon/s, water based paints, brush
What to do: Whatever you choose to draw with the wax (candle or crayon) will stay put and resist the wash of any water based paint you paint over it. So, think about what you will use the wax for and then choose your colour/s of paint to wash over the whole sheet. All you need to remember is to keep the paint thin and watery enough to let the wax resist it.



4) Stamped pattern

Materials: Sheet of paper, saucer or similar washable shallow container for some water based paint (ideally ready mixed), an item to make a stamp from such as a washing up sponge (cut a pattern into or cut smaller shapes from it) or a halved potato/similar that you can cut a pattern into.
What to do: You could paint the entire surface of the paper with one base colour and then use the stamper (whatever you have made it from) to stamp a pattern onto it with a contrasting colour. Note you may get a better result if you let the base colour dry first before stamping on the pattern in the other colour.

5) Using a template for a repeat pattern

Materials: Sheet of paper, pencil, small piece of cardboard (saved from e.g. a cereal box or similar), scissors.

What to do: Choose a motif shape with a strong outline. Draw the outline of the shape onto the thin card and cut it out very carefully. Then use this template to draw around on the sheet of paper to build up a pattern. Depending on the shape you choose, you could choose to overlap the shape to make new shapes. This can be really effective if you are using a geometric shape to draw around.

6) Experiment with you own combinations

Try using a combination of two of the techniques about to make a new pattern or work out your own method of making an original pattern.

Keep all these patterned sheets together ready for using next time on the collage.