

Verge DIY Kids Pack

6 + year olds

COLLAGRAPH PRINTMAKING

Learn the basics of printmaking and make your own collagraph prints with materials you have at home.

Collagraph is a printmaking process in which objects are glued onto a board to create textures. You can then use your textured board to make a print.

What you need:

- Cardboard
- Paper (to print onto)
- Glue sticks
- Scissors
- Acrylic, tempera, or block printing paint
- A brush or sponge
- Liquid glue or acrylic medium (optional)
- String (optional)
- Textured fabric (optional)



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Part 1 instructions:

Gather your materials and protect your work surface with a tablecloth, newspaper, or anything that may prevent glue and paint from making a mess.

Find a flat piece of cardboard to use as your **matrix**.

A **matrix** is an object you print from. For this project, your matrix is the cardboard that you will glue your materials onto to make a collagraph print.



After you have identified your surface, play around with some textures and shapes. You may use fabric, string, or cut pieces of cardboard to create an image or make an arrangement.

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Once you have decided on your image or arrangement of shapes, glue them down to your board.

If you have Elmers glue, mod podge or acrylic medium, coat your entire board (including the glued down pieces) with an even layer. Let it dry for at least 2 hours.

While you are waiting for your matrix to dry, let's learn about some collagraphy history!



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Belkis Ayon



Belkis Ayon was a very notable printmaker who made collagraphs.

She was born in Havana Cuba in 1967 and died in 1999.

Her work was related to mythological stories related to the Abakua, an Afro-Cuban secret society. Her huge prints could be considered scary because of their dark shapes and ghostly silhouettes.

She grew up during a time of extreme poverty in Cuba where artists had little to no supplies but she managed to make artwork with things like discarded cardboard and fabric.

<http://www.ayonbelkis.cult.cu/en/>



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Part 2 instructions:

Once your cardboard matrix has dried, you are ready to print!

Cover your cardboard matrix with a thin, even layer of paint using a brush or sponge.



This process has to be done quickly if you are using water based paint, because the surface has to remain wet to be able to print.



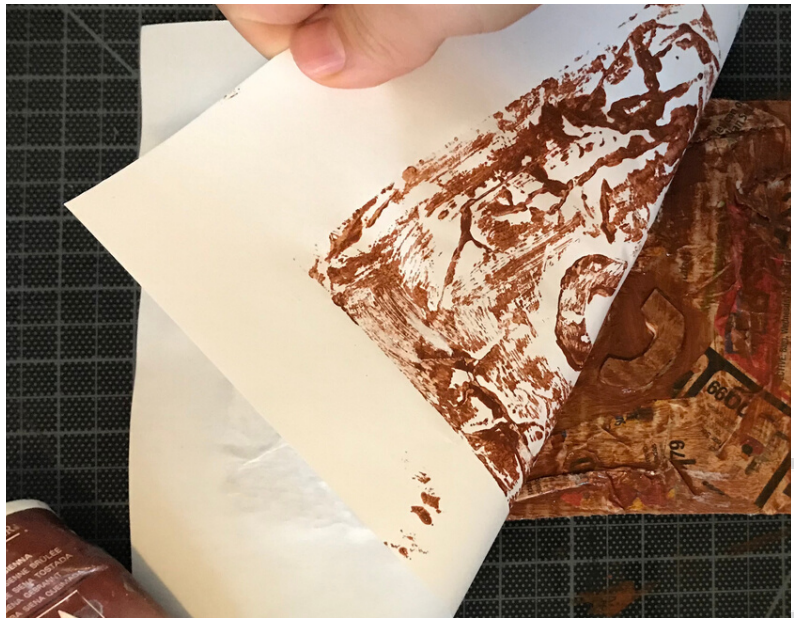
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Place a sheet of paper on top of your cardboard matrix and press down with your hands, a spoon, or other burnishing tool.



Make sure to press all over your surface. Move quickly, because the paper stick to the cardboard if the paint dries.

Peel your paper off and see the results!



Post pictures of your collagraph on social media with the hashtag #vergekidsDIY so we can share it!

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