

Architecture and Colour

Materials List:

- Copies of architectural drawings and maps of the Bridgewater Canal
- Selection of Watercolour pencils
- Pots of water

This activity is about shape and colour, linking in the shapes and colours that can be found along the Bridgewater Canal.

Instructions:

1. Take a trip to the Bridgewater Canal and make a list of all of the colours you can see. You could also run this activity near the canal itself.
2. Colour in various shapes and patterns, found in the Architectural Drawings and maps.
3. You can use brushes and water to blend colours.
4. You could then scan these and blow them up into large art works or convert them into collages.

Collage

Materials List:

- A range of tactile papers including corrugated cardboard, mirror card etc.
- Natural materials found at the Bridgewater Canal, including twigs, leaves, grasses, stones etc.
- Scissors
- Glue Sticks
- Large piece of paper
- Fine liners
- Paint / Palettes / Brushes

This can be a group activity or delivered on a one-to-one basis.

Instructions:

Taking inspiration from the buildings, materials and textures found around the Bridgewater Canal:

Cut

Rip

Scrunch

Fold

your various papers in response to what you see, adding and subtracting your pieces onto the Large A1 Paper.

Secure these on with glue sticks.

Why not collect natural materials from the Bridgewater Canal and add these into your collage too.

You could also build up your collage with other mediums such as fine liners and paint.

Industrial Sculpture

Materials List:

- Screws
- Nails
- Wood
- Grout
- Any found industrial objects such as springs, wires etc.
- Metallic Spray Paints

This activity could begin with a discussion about industries that could be found along the Bridgewater Canal in Salford.

Instructions:

1. Begin by selecting a piece of wood.
2. Use a plastic knife, to evenly distribute the grout onto the wood.
3. Taking inspiration from the Bridgewater Canal, create shapes from the industrial objects. These could represent shapes or buildings from along the canal.
4. Use Spray Paints to add various Metallic colours on top. This will also change the colour of the grout, making it appear more industrial. Make sure you do this in a well-ventilated area.

Mapping

Materials List:

- Map showing the Bridgewater Canal in Salford (with cork backing)
- Coloured pins
- Thread

Instructions:

1. Begin looking at a map showing the Bridgewater Canal in Salford.
2. Find the areas you know, and spend time discussing what is there, and any memories of those places.
3. Begin mapping areas you have spent time discussing.
4. First choose a coloured pin, and put these pins into the areas you know. Then tie and weave the thread around the pins.
5. This will create your own personalised map and it will even look like a canal!

Mosaic

Materials List:

- Wood / Cork
- Mosaic Tiles – Assortment of sizes and colours
- White Grout
- Plastic Knife
- Sponge
- Gloss

Organising the mosaic tiles into colours is also a great warm up activity!

Instructions:

1. Begin by selecting a piece of wood you have found along the canal, or a flat piece of cork.
2. Mix the grout with water to a tick paste.
3. Use a plastic knife, to evenly distribute the grout onto the wood or cork.
4. Thinking about colour and pattern you may have found along the Bridgewater Canal, create your own mosaic pattern. You might want to take inspiration from the Motifs sheet. Remember to keep at least a 0.5cm gap between each side of the tiles so that the grout will fix the tiles.
5. Remove any Grout using the knife and clean off the tiles with warm soapy water and a sponge.
6. Once complete, you may want to add a gloss finish to your mosaic for a finished effect.

Photography

If you have access to an iPad or tablet, encouraging participants to have a go at taking photographs can be a very accessible and really creative way of engaging with their surroundings. Try using some of these apps to enhance and animate the images:

iPad Apps:

- Panoramic 360
- Adobe Photoshop Express
- Annamika
- Diptic
- Colour Splash

If you don't have access to an iPad, you could use a regular digital or print camera, print the photos and use them creatively.

Instructions:

1. Take a trip to the Bridgewater Canal.
2. Use either an iPad, SLR or Digital Camera to take photographs of the Bridgewater Canal.
3. Use your photographs creatively:
 - Print your photographs out and create a collage from your photographs – making your own version of the canal. OR
 - Print your Photographs onto Transfer Paper and create fabric collages using an iron and fabric paints. OR
 - Create small mosaic pieces from your photographs by cutting them into small squares – what kinds of collage can this create?

Printing Motifs

Materials List:

- Bridgewater Canal stonemasons' marks and motif sheets
- Styrofoam
- Sharp Pencils / tools to press lines into styrofoam
- Rollers
- Printing Ink (assortment)
- Inking Trays
- Card

This activity is inspired by the stonemasons' marks found on buildings and carved stone along the canal, which identified which mason worked on which pieces of stone. The modern motifs have been inspired by these marks and are used today in print, design and work relating to the Bridgewater Canal in Salford.

Instructions:

1. Explore the stonemasons' marks and modern motifs and decide on what you would like to print.
2. Draw your design into a piece of Styrofoam with a sharp pencil, making lines thicker with clay tools or other implements. Make sure you push in firmly otherwise it won't print!
3. Squeeze a small amount of ink in a colour of your choice into a tray and distribute it evenly with a roller.
4. Roll over a thin layer of ink in a colour of your choice over the Styrofoam, making sure it is evenly distributed. Turn it over and print onto a piece of coloured card, pressing down all over with the flat of your hand but ensuring the styrofoam doesn't move.
5. You can repeat this process, changing colours and how many times you decide to print it – the designs may make good greetings cards or decorations.

Wall Rubbings

Materials List:

- Pencils
- Wax Crayon
- A4 Paper – selection of colour and thickness to explore the activity in greater depth

Instructions:

1. Take a visit to the Bridgewater Canal and check out the textures of wood, stone, trees, and brick...use touch to explore these surfaces first before doing a rubbing.
2. Take some paper and do some rubbings – how did they come out?
3. Take some time to compare and contrast all of your rubbings.
4. Why not convert your wall rubbings into a journal, which you can use for other upcoming, creative projects?