

SENIOR COLLAGE ARTIST BADGE

Badge Purpose: When you've earned this badge, you'll know how to create collages using different materials and color themes.

Activity	Materials Needed
All About Collage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore the history of collage and different types of collage created by artists over the years. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Computer with internet access
Don't Lose Focus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a collage with a strong focal point. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Base materials (sturdy paper; wood, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Collage materials (fabric, magazines, photos, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Scissors <input type="checkbox"/> Glue
Holding Out for a Hero <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a collage of your hero or role model and share with others. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Base materials (sturdy paper; wood, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Collage materials (fabric, magazines, photos, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Scissors <input type="checkbox"/> Glue
One Man's Trash... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a collage using found objects. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Base materials (sturdy paper, wood, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Found objects <input type="checkbox"/> Scissors <input type="checkbox"/> Glue

Getting Started

- One of these activities will include making art from found objects. Keep an eye out for interesting materials or objects you see being thrown in the recycling or garbage (make sure it's clean!) or out in nature. Having these on hand already will make it easier to work on your collage.
- If you're looking for more inspiration and collage tools, Rookie posts a monthly collage kit on their site: rookiemag.com/tag/collage-kit.

Activity #1: All About Collage

Badge Connection: Step 1 – Explore collage

Materials Needed: Computer with internet access



1. Delve into the history of collage. Collage truly emerged as its own medium in the early 20th century, when it was made famous by two Cubist artists, Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque. The word “collage” comes from the French verb “*coller*,” which means “to glue,” or “to stick.” It was so groundbreaking because it combined high and low culture (creating art through the pasting of pieces of paper, newsprint, fabric, and other materials).
2. Go online and search for artists who are working in collage:
 - Hannah Höch
 - Eileen Agar
 - Kara Walker
 - Lorna Simpson
 - Wangechi Mutu
 - Yayoi Kusama
3. As you create your collages, keep these techniques in mind (source: Mrs. DeKett’s Art Room)
 - **Choose a base.** Paper, cardboard, construction paper, wood, etc. (Remember that the base should be sturdy enough to hold whatever materials you’ll be putting on top.)
 - **Select materials.** Fabric, magazines, photos, wallpaper, found items, etc.
 - **Cut or tear shapes.** Use scissors, or an X-acto knife if you want to cut out finer details.
 - **Arrange and rearrange.** Cut out all your materials before you start gluing stuff down. Then, shuffle the images around, overlap some, make cutouts, etc. before you commit it to paper.
 - **Attach shapes.** Use glue, mod podge, etc. to stick images to the base.
 - **Add details.** Use paint, markers, thread, etc. to add embellishments or details.

Activity #2: Don’t Lose Focus

Badge Connection: Step 2 – Focus on composition

Materials Needed: Base materials (sturdy paper, wood, etc.); collage materials (fabric, magazines, photos, etc.); scissors; glue

1. Composition in art is like a road map for your viewer. It’s how the elements in your piece of art are arranged or organized; good composition guides the viewer’s eye through the whole painting, allowing them to take everything in before ultimately coming back to rest on the focal point.
2. Your collage should have a focus or focal point—the “most important” object in your work. If there are too many elements in your piece and nothing that ties them together, your collage will feel disjointed and your audience will be left with “wandering eyes.”
3. Create a collage with a strong focal point.
4. As you cut out your images, place them around your focal point to see where the objects land best. (A good technique to test where your focal point is: close your eyes and then slowly open them, noticing where your eye is first drawn to in your collage.)

Activity #3: Holding Out for a Hero

Badge Connection: Step 3 – Create with color and Step 5 – Share a message

Materials Needed: Base materials (sturdy paper, wood, etc.); collage materials (fabric, magazines, photos, etc.); scissors; glue

1. Artist Megan Coyle calls her collage technique “painting with paper.” She finds colors and textures in magazines to create her art. Her landscape collages explore how color can create a sense of depth and space. See some of her work on her site: mcoyle.com/learn/high-school/scapes/landscape-collages and learn about learn about her collage process: mcoyle.com/learn/process.



2. Then, create a collage of your personal hero or role model. Find a picture of them, then follow Megan’s process of sketching, color and texture sourcing, gluing, and layering to complete your collage.
3. After you’ve finished, show your collage to your family, friends, or troop and share why this person is your personal hero.

Activity #4: One Man’s Trash...

Badge Connection: Step 4 – Use found objects

Materials Needed: Base materials (sturdy paper, wood, etc.); found objects; scissors; glue

1. When you see an old bottle cap or an empty roll of toilet paper, your first thought might be to throw it in the trash or the recycling, but some artists see junk as raw materials.
2. Pick an iconic painting or photograph (or just a favorite piece of artwork) and recreate it using only found objects.
3. Let your recycling and discarded items (or found items in your home like buttons and thread) be your “upcycled” palette. (Make sure that wherever you find your recycling or trash is clean.)

