

What is a Canvas? Exploration Activity

By Paula Briggs



AccessArt Art Lab for ages 11, 12 and 13, explore "What is a Canvas?"

At the newly reformed AccessArt ArtLab held at [Wysing Arts Centre](#) for ages 11, 12 and 13, this term we have been exploring the question:

"What is a Canvas"

I wanted to give the children the opportunity to question the surface they paint on, and to explore how the personality of

"canvas" can affect the artwork. I wanted to try to get the children to think about the meaning of the word canvas in its most lateral sense.

To Begin

We began this week's session with a simple exercise to help us begin to question the surface we draw or paint upon, and to start to understand how the character or nature of the given surface can impact upon the marks we make.

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AccessArt is a UK Charity and we believe everyone has the right to be creative. AccessArt provides inspiration to help us all reach our creative potential.

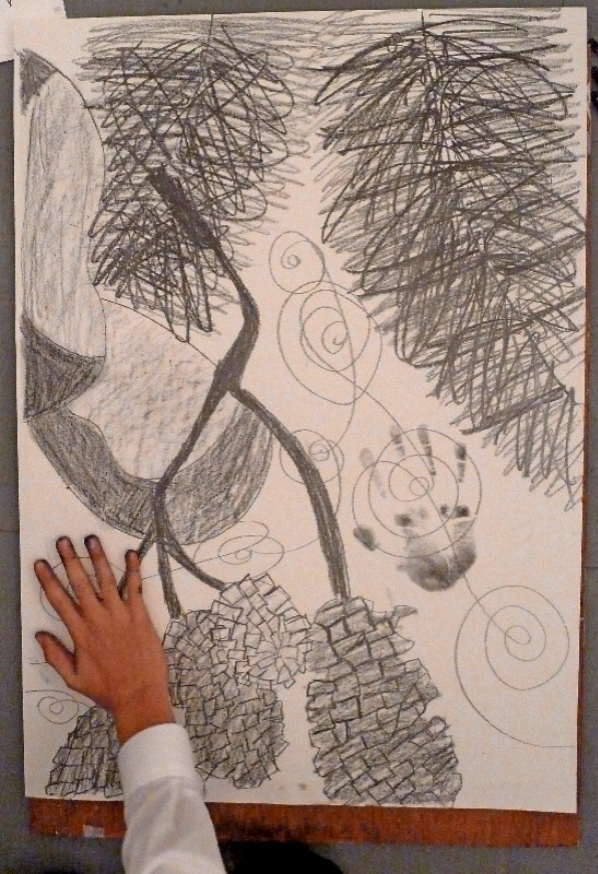
Teenagers Use Touch to Draw and Explore Small Objects

“Feely Drawings” or Drawing by Touch – a 5 minute drawing exercise



This short icebreaker or warm up exercise, led by Paula Briggs at the Drawing Workshops for ages 6 to 10, encourages the children to relax into their drawing session.

Introducing Graphite and Blind Drawing



Teenagers explored mark making, drawing 'blind' with the age old drawing tool 'the pencil' and softer graphite sticks. Sheila Ceccarelli

Marbling for Surface Design by Ruth Purdy

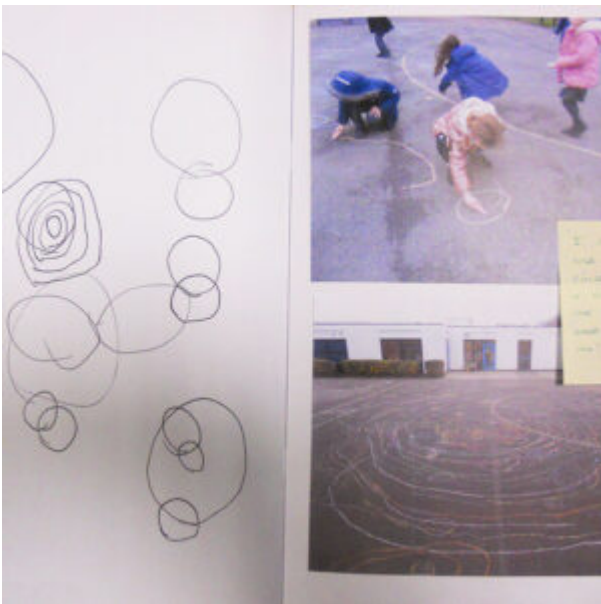
Lights | Camera | Action | we

**all love glow-in-the-dark
tape! By Sara Dudman**

Drawing Spirals

**See How This Resource Is Used
in Schools...**





You May Also Like...

Pathway: Spirals



[Featured in the 'Spirals Pathway'](#)

Talking Points: Molly Hausland



The ancient art of kolan



**Join Us for an August
Creative Challenge!**

**The August Creative Challenge
Gallery – Week One**

Block printing: Creating

repeat patterns using letters with Andy McKenzie

Teenagers from AccessArt's Experimental Drawing Class worked with artist Andy McKenzie to create repeat patterns of letters.

Choosing, Mounting, Showing and Celebrating Art Work by Teenagers

Inspired by Christo: Mixed Media Drawings

Graffiti Floor – Teenagers Have a Silent Conversation

with Pen and Mark

As an adult, you must remember your teenage self and all the intensity with which life was felt?

Drawing Space/Drawing in Space

Making Collographs with Andy Mckenzie: Week Two

Following on from the previous week, when teenagers were introduced to making Collagraph Plates, this week teenagers took prints from their textured plates.

Linking Flock Together to your Curriculum: Key Stage 1 – 3

Sara Dudman & Debbie Locke: Flock Together: Interpretation Activities

Introduction to Flock Together

[‘Flock Together’](#) was a collaborative project which explored how the artists Sara Dudman and Debbie Locke might work together to make creative contemporary artwork in response to sheep farming.

The exhibition of work took place at the Thelma Hulbert Gallery in Devon. This resource shares information about the artists, how they worked collaboratively, describes the work they produced and includes suggested activities which you may like to try in the classroom.

We hope this resource provides teachers of all key stages with access to the working practices and resulting artwork of contemporary artists, and shows you how to use their work as inspiration in your classroom.

[Understand more about how the work was created here.](#)



Get Away, Debbie Locke & Sara Dudman

Introducing the Artists: Sara Dudman & Debbie Locke

Debbie and Sara have been working together as an [artist collaboration](#) for 3 years, whilst also maintaining their own individual practice as artists. The “Flock Together” collaboration relied upon both artists bringing their diverse methods, media and techniques together to explore their shared interests in movements, relationships, behaviours and mapping.

[Find out more about Sara and Debbie](#)

Flock Together Artwork

The artwork below was created as a result of the Flock Together collaboration. You may use the images below in the classroom to inspire the activities below.



**Sheep-cam in barn 00.45 – 02.25 Debbie
Locke & Sara Dudman**



**Field-cam farmer feeding sheep
00.51-01.25 Debbie Locke & Sara Dudman**



**Sheep-cam in airfield 06.47-07.21 Debbie
Locke & Sara Dudman**



**Farmer-cam in Field 02.52 – 03.33 Debbie
Locke & Sara Dudman**

Talking Points for Pupils

“So, what are you looking at and how do you best go about understanding and responding to these abstract artworks?”

[Find out how you might talk about these images with your pupils](#)

Linking “Flock Together” to your Art & Design Curriculum

Use the buttons below to explore how you might work with pupils in each different Key Stage.



[Key Stages 1 – 3](#)



Key Stage 4



[Key Stage 5](#)

Links & Project Supporters

Flock Together artworks were originally exhibited at the Thelma Hulbert Gallery. The project has received great support from a range of partners including Arts Council England, Double Elephant Print Workshop and Somerset Film at the Engine Room who have either financially supported the project or provided technical assistance with prints and video editing.

<https://flocktogethernews.wordpress.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/flocktogethernews>

Twitter: @flocktognews

www.debbielocke.com

www.saradudman.com

www.thelmahulbert.com

Using Monoprinting and Sketchbooks to Explore GCSE English Literature Poetry

A session for teenagers exploring how a hands on creative activities might engage students in their revision, and how monoprinting and sketchbook processes might aid a personal connection to the poetry text.

Following on Screen Printing with Andy Mckenzie

Following Andy's Introduction to Screen Printing, teenagers worked during an 1 1/4 hour long session to build images printing over the previous week's work.

Introducing Screen Printing with Andy Mckenzie

Doppelganger Drawing

Visualisation Drawing