

cubs

Artist Activity Badge



An introduction to arts and crafts

hobbycraft

Get crafty!



Letter to Cub Leaders

Sponsored by Hobbycraft, the 'Introduction to arts and crafts' activity pack includes four fun and inspiring activities, to help Cubs work towards their Artist Activity Badge.

This activity pack is the first in a series of resources designed with both Cub Leaders and Cubs in mind. We have pulled together a host of useful resources and handy tips - from an art essential toolkit to a dictionary of art words - all bursting with inspiration and creativity!

If you're looking for additional arts and craft project ideas and resources, visit the Ideas Library at www.hobbycraft.co.uk or visit your local Hobbycraft store today.

KEY



Did you know?



Crafty tip!



Safety first

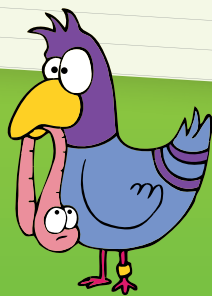


Art

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1. Essential art toolkit

A list of essential craft tools and materials that even the most advanced arts and crafters use regularly!

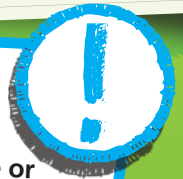
- Craft paper – different types, thickness and colours
- Cardboard
- Tracing paper
- Felt
- Soft pencil and eraser
- Pencil sharpener
- Sticky tape
- Glue stick and craft glue
- Colouring pencils, wax crayons and markers
- Paint palette
- Acrylic paints
- Scissors
- Wobbly eyes, pom poms, chenilles
- Stapler
- Ruler
- Glue dots
- Paints and brushes
- Artist sketch book

Kitchen paper roll or facial tissues and cotton buds are great for spills and corrections.



Get crafty tip!

Always be on the lookout for things you may find in nature or around the home that you can use for crafts – pebbles, seashells, bright-coloured autumn leaves, flowers, shiny chocolate papers and gift wrapping.



2. What is art?

The word 'art' refers to a number of creative activities as well as the result or product of those activities. For example a painter creates a painting and a photographer takes photographs.

Here is a handy list of some of the most common types of art:

Painting

An artist creates a masterpiece using one or more of the following types of paint: acrylics, oils, water colours. Art can be abstract (imaginary), still life (painting what you see), or a portrait (painting of a person).

Drawing

Using a number of tools such as pencils, erasers, markers, pastels and chalks, an artist creates their drawing on a piece of paper or card. Drawing (sometimes called sketching) can be used to create an imaginary scene or to copy what you see with your own eyes, such as drawing a tree in nature.

Photography

The art of capturing (and sometimes processing and developing) images using a camera. Today most photographers use digital cameras. Photography is a great way of capturing people, beautiful places or anything that interests you.

Model making

A model maker (sometimes called architects, sculptors or animators) creates a solid object out of raw materials such as clay, tin, copper or wire using a number of tools such as craft knives and shaping tools. Model making also refers to making and decorating plastic models of cars, ships or aeroplanes.

Papercraft

Papercrafting could mean anything from card making and scrapbooking to origami and paper model making. With scissors, glue, embellishments and a little inspiration, you can create just about anything using a bit of paper and your imagination.

3. Dictionary of art words

Masterpiece

An artist or craftsman's best piece of work.

Acrylic paint

Quick drying and easy to clean up while wet. Acrylic paint can also be diluted with water and easily mixed to make different colours.

Oil paint

Type of paint made with natural oils such as linseed or walnut. Oil paints dry slowly allowing the artists to rework and blend colours.

Watercolour paint

A water-based painting technique where the artist uses water and the white of his paper to create their painting.

Abstract art

Art that does not show a person, place or thing in the real or natural world. Instead, the artist uses shapes and colours to create something from their imagination.

Still life art

Art that shows everyday objects from things in nature (trees, scenery, flowers and so on) or from everyday life (for example, books, bottles, cars).

Portrait art

Art that shows a likeness to either a person, yourself or even an animal.

Pastels

A dried paste made of paint colours that is moulded into a crayon form.

Scrapbooking

A book or album where you stick clippings, notes or photographs etc. People use scrapbooks as memory or holiday books. Scrapbooking pages also make great gifts or wall art.

Origami

The Japanese art of folding paper into decorative shapes and figures.

Embellishments

Any decorative detail or item that is added to a project to make it more attractive or interesting. For example, adding glitter to a card, flowers to a hat and so on.

4. Things to make and do

Decorated book covers are perfect for your school books or journals. They also make great gifts for that special friend!



Design and
make a
decorated
book cover

What you need:

- Decopatch papers
- Decopatch glue
- Brush
- Notebook or file for decorating

Instructions:

1. Snip some of each piece of paper into squares and rectangles of random size.
2. Spread some glue onto your item to be decorated – be generous and use the paintbrush to pick up and position a square or rectangle onto the surface.
3. Add more glue to the paper to fix it into position.
4. Continue until the entire surface is covered and leave to dry.

Get crafty tip!

If you are using light coloured papers on a dark surface prepare the surface with a few light coats of white paint first and leave to dry.



Did you know?

Decopatching works on just about any surface from metal and plastic to wood and glass. Why not experiment with some ideas yourself?



Decopatch folder

4. Things to make and do

No matter what the occasion, sending a greeting card to someone special is the perfect way to let them know you are thinking of them.



Design
and make
a greeting
card



Getting started – your design

1. Think about who you are making your card for. Is it for your friend's birthday, or a cheerful Christmas card for Nan?
2. Think about what this person likes. What are some of their favourite things? Does your friend love a particular sport or animal? Perhaps Nan would love a picture of you on her card!
3. Think about the design of your card. How big do you want to make it, what is the colour of card and paper you want to use?
4. Using card, markers and embellishments, create your card.

What you need:

- colourful card and paper
- matching envelopes
- scissors and glue
- markers, colouring pencils
- stamps, stencils and embellishments
- continue until the entire surface is covered and leave to dry.

Get crafty tip!

Make a rough sketch of your design on a spare sheet of paper before you start with your final creation.



4. Things to make and do

There is no better way to understand and appreciate the different types of art than by visiting an art gallery.

To complete this activity, visit an art gallery and work through the following two activities!



Visit an art gallery



Get crafty tip!

1. When you visit the art gallery, don't forget to take a pencil, notebook and eraser.
2. Art galleries are amazing spaces filled with wonderful things in every corner. Keep your eyes peeled and look around. You never know what amazing work of art you may find!
3. Be curious and don't be afraid to ask questions.



NOTE:

Planning a gallery visit with your Group?

Plan ahead – find out about the gallery before you visit. What will you see? Check to see if there are any artworks that will interest your Cubs.

Kid's activities – many galleries have wonderful children's trails, special collections and activities.

Gallery do's and don'ts – explain to your Group the special rules of a gallery.

Gallery activity 1: portrait paintings

What is a portrait?

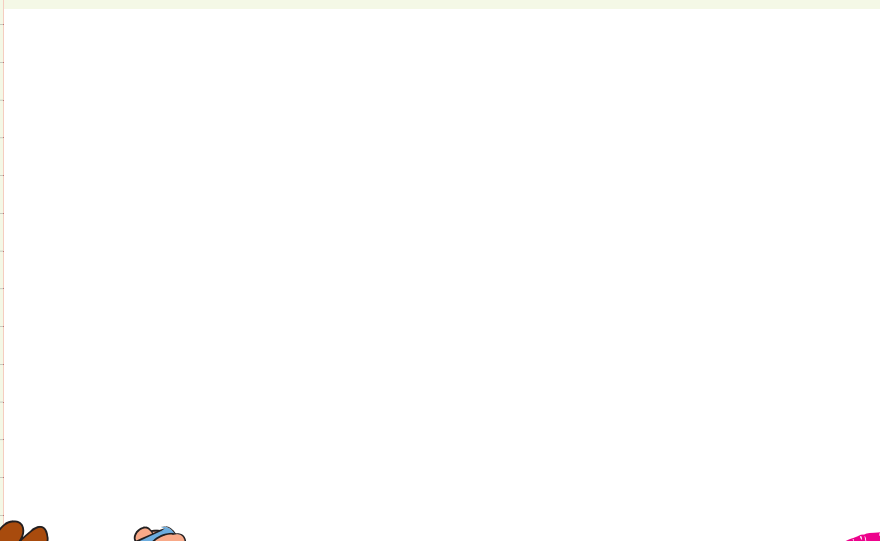
A portrait is a work of art that shows an image of a person. Many portraits are pictures or paintings that focus on a person's face. Not only does the artist of the portrait represent how the person looks, but through the portrait, he or she tries to show something special about that person as well, such as their personality or attitude.

How many portrait paintings can you find?

Give details of what you find.

Draw a portrait of a friend.

Find a quiet corner and sketch a portrait of a friend.



Did you know?

A portrait isn't limited to a flat surface. Instead of a painting or a photograph, some artists create three-dimensional portraits, such as sculptures. When an artist creates a portrait of him or herself, it is called a self-portrait. An artist may even decide to create a portrait of an animal!



Gallery activity 2: forms of art

Forms of art means the type of artwork, such as drawing, painting, sculpture, collage or photography.

How many forms of art can you see?

Name them.

Choose your favourite piece of art.

Why is it your favourite?

4. Things to make and do

This is a great activity to do with your Cub Group, with friends or on your own. Why not ask each of your Cub Leaders to bring in an item from home to create a still life. For example apples, oranges, vases, table cloths, etc. Create your scene with these items in a central area where everyone can see it. Grab your sketch pads and paints and draw or paint what you see.

Creating a landscape drawing or painting is a great activity to do whilst outdoors. Next time you are out in the open, take along your sketch pads, pencils and paint and get crafty!

Draw or
paint a picture
from a still
life or a
landscape

What you need:

- Drawing
 - Artist sketch pencil
 - Eraser
 - Sharpener
 - Sketch pad
- Painting
 - Watercolour, acrylic, poster or oil paints
 - Thin, medium, thick paint brushes
 - Glass of water
 - Artist paint pad (for watercolours, acrylics, poster or oil paints)



Dictionary

1. Still life: Art that shows everyday objects from things in nature (trees, scenery, flowers and so on) or from everyday life (for example: books, bottles, cars).
2. Landscape: Art that shows an area of land with its trees, rivers, lakes, ponds and the sea.



5. Get crafty top tips

Safety first!

- Always get help from a responsible adult when using scissors and craft knives.
- Always store craft knives and scissors with the blades covered.
- Some glue is toxic, so take care not to get any near your mouth or eyes.



Reuse and upcycle!

- Stay on the look out for everyday objects that can be used for arts and crafts.
- Use empty kitchen towel tubes, washing up liquid bottles, newspaper, magazines, empty boxes and even old clothes!
- Think about what it is you want to make. Perhaps you could ask your group to help you collect!



Why not... master an art?

Using the 'What is art' page pick one that interests you and learn all about it!

When did it start? Who used to do it? Why do you do it?

How do you do it?

Then share everything you've learned with your Group!



Hobbycraft stores near you

Aberdeen	Crayford	Maidstone	Stevenage
Altrincham	Crewe	Milton Keynes	Stockport
Aylesbury	Croydon	Newport	Stockton-on-Tees
Basildon	Droitwich	Newton Abbot	Swansea
Basingstoke	Dundee	Northampton	Swindon
Bicester	Edinburgh	Norwich	Tamworth
Bolton	Falkirk	Nottingham	Thanet
Bournemouth	Gateshead	Orpington	Truro
Bridgемere	Glasgow East	Oxford	Tunbridge Wells
Bristol	Gloucester	Peterborough	Warrington
Cambridge	Greenford	Preston	Watford
Cardiff	Guiseley	Reading	Woking
Carlisle	Harlow	Romford	Wolverhampton
Chelmsford	Havant	Sheffield	York
Cheltenham	Hereford	Solihull	...and many more
Chester	Hull	Southampton	on their way!
Copthorne	Inverness	Stafford	
Coventry	Leeds	Staines	
Crawley	Livingston	Staples Corner	

Useful contacts!

www.craftscouncil.org.uk

For listings of museums and art galleries

www.craftclub.org.uk

For lots of info on local craft events and a handy 'craft map'

www.hobbycraft.co.uk

For lots of info on how to get started with different crafts



www.hobbycraft.co.uk