Art Projects for the entire family,
presented by Anne’s Treasures
Some historians state that paper was first made in 200BC China, while others say it was made in 105AD using fibers from the bark of the mulberry tree and mixing it with water. The use of paper to create decorative arts first appeared in Japan around the tenth century.

The word Collage was first used by artist Georges Braque and Pablo Picasso in 1910. In the French language, coller means, “to glue.” Creating art by assembling and gluing pieces of different shapes and colors of paper to form a picture is a technique known as paper collage. French artist Henri Matisse also created art with collage, cutting out simple shapes from brightly colored paper.

**Tips:**

- Inspiration can come from anywhere. A magazine image of a forest can inspire a nature theme or one word can change the tone of your collage.
- Cut out more than what you think you will need.
- Position everything where you want it to go before you glue.

Don’t forget to share your final product on social @bowersmuseum #bowersathome!
Collect magazines, old books, fabric, scrap paper, ribbon, gems, and/or unused jewelry.
  • You can also print images or cut out shapes from colored paper.

Rifle through magazines and various images until an idea for a central theme is reached.
  • Collages can be about anything: animals, people, politics, ideas, pop culture, humor, etc.

Once a theme has been chosen, find images and words that can be used.
  • Cut out anything and everything that catches your eye for your theme.

Choose a color scheme for the background that covers the entire board. Try to avoid empty white spaces, unless it is by choice.

Place all your materials on the board. Layer objects on top of each other and move things around for the best effect.
  • At this time, you may notice that not all your pieces are going to be used, which is fine. Cut out more if you want. Take your time, a collage will continue to change and evolve as you work on it.

Once you have all the pieces the way you want them, begin gluing.
  • You will have to remove everything from the board and begin with the first layer. If you think you will forget how it looks, take a picture before removing the pieces.

Optional: Cover the entire collage in mod podge or sealer for extra protection.

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