

KIDS @ CAM – At Home Family Projects

Spotlight on CAM's Collection

GEORGES BRAQUE

About the Artist:

“In art there is only one thing that counts: the bit that cannot be explained.” – Georges Braques

Georges Braque (May 13th, 1882 – August 31st, 1963) was a major 20th century French painter and sculptor. He and Pablo Picasso developed the art movement known as Cubism, which is a style of art which aims to show all of the possible viewpoints of a person or an object all at once. It is called Cubism because the items represented in the artworks look like they are made out of cubes and other geometrical shapes. Georges Braque was one of the first artists to experiment with looking at shapes as geometric and abstract.

Here is an example of one of Georges Braque cubist works.



Georges Braque, 1913, *Woman with Guitar*, Musée National d'Art Moderne, Centre Pompidou, Paris

ART AT HOME – Cubist Collage Painting

What you'll need:

- Sheet of thick paper for background (it is up to you what size and color)
- Multi-colored construction paper
- Other paper to add into the collage (newspaper, magazines, wrapping paper, tissue paper, etc.)
- Glue (we recommend squeezing glue into a cup/dish and thinning with a small amount of water)
- Paintbrushes
- Paint (we recommend washable tempura). You can choose just one color or have a few options.
- Table cover

Set up all of your supplies on your work area, being sure to cover your table first. Don't pour the glue until you are ready to get started.

- Step 1 – Using your assorted papers, begin to tear them into different shapes. (You can cut the shapes if you prefer). Do this until you think you have enough to fill your collage paper.
- Step 2 – Start to arrange the different shapes of torn paper onto the background paper without gluing it down. Experiment with overlapping and color combinations. Do this until you have a design that you like.
- Step 3 – Pour glue into a container and add a small amount of water to thin the glue. Stir it with a paintbrush to mix it well. (Start with a few drops and add until it is the consistency you want).
- Step 4 – Glue down your pieces of paper by applying the glue with the paintbrush. We recommend painting on the paper shapes and then smoothing it onto the background paper with your hand.
- Step 5 – Paint around the shapes in different ways. You can outline the shapes, create new shapes, paint in the empty areas, etc.
- Step 6 – If you like you can apply new torn pieces of paper onto the paint before it dries.
- Step 7 – Your painting is complete when it looks the way you want it to look! Place outside in the sun to dry.
- Step 8 – Give your painting a name, and make sure to sign it!
- Step 9 - Help clean up your supplies and workspace.

Tips:

- Take your time when deciding where to place the different shapes – it's fun to play around with different designs until you figure out your favorite one!
- Be thoughtful as you apply the paint. You may not want to overpower your paper collage work, plus too much paint might make the collage paper rip.

Questions to ask one another:

- When you were creating your collage, were you trying to make it look like something in particular or were you placing the pieces at random?
- Did you prefer the collaging part or the painting part of the project? Why?

Follow Up Project Idea:

- Set up a simple still life (you can do this with objects you find around the house, flowers, etc). Create a Cubist Collage Painting of your still life by seeing the objects as different shapes.