

## Flower Collage with Sarah Evans

**Make a flower collage from a magazine. This activity encourages you to look at what is around you this season, and to focus on the details of your chosen flower.**

Suitable for all ages, young children might need some support.

### You will need:

- A piece of paper,
- pencil,
- scissors,
- old magazines,
- masking tape, glue stick

*(N.B. this activity can be done with just scissors and magazines)*



### Instructions:

1. **Take a walk** on a spring day to find inspiration for your collage. Look out for flowers in the season you are walking - in spring flowers usually stand out like little jewels against the fading winter colours. (If you can't find a flower, focus on a leaf or bud).
2. **Choose one flower** to be your subject. Take time to observe the detail of the flower or plant's shape, the edge of the petal or leaves and the colours from the centre of the flower to the edge.
3. If you can, **take a photograph** or make a sketch to help you remember when you get home. If you cannot, take time to look and create a mental photograph!
4. Back at home **gather your materials**, try sketching the outline of the shape over and over until you have a few versions. These do not need to be perfect drawings, they are guidelines for your cut-outs and drawing helps you to remember the detail of the plant.
5. **Look** through a magazine and try to find a picture with the colours of your flowers, we are going to use this colour to make our collage. If you cannot find any pictures

with the right colour pick another bright spring colour to use. Pull or cut out the pages you want to use.

6. There are a couple of ways you can **cut your image**:

- Roughly cut out a few of your drawings, tape them on to your magazine page, and cut around your drawing and the magazine together.
- You may find it easier to cut the shapes out free hand, just using your drawings for reference.

7. Now **cut out** contrasting colours to add any detail to the flower, stick the flowers together with the glue stick.

8. Now find a **contrasting** background to place your flowers on, this could be another image from the magazine or a piece of coloured paper.

9. Try **laying your flowers** on a few different colours and images and see if the flowers stand out, blend in, contrast or complements. Once you have found a background you like you can stick everything down.

#### Take it Further:

- Spring flowers and leaves often stand out against the bare hedgerows or dull colours of winter, create the same impact in the collage by **experimenting with backgrounds** and considering how the different effects alter the image.
- You could **add further detail** with a craft knife (used by or with an adult) and cutting out around printed copies of photographs taken on your walk.
- You can **create** whatever image you like using this technique, utilizing the colour or texture in magazines to construct your image – it does not need to be flowers.

#### Share It!

Don't forget to tag your creations with @UniHertsArts on all socials. Using #CreateItShareIt #UHArtsatHome We will aim to share what you send us!

There are lots of activities on our website – what would you like to make next? Perhaps try creating a Hanging Garden with Lee Farmer? [Hanging Garden - University of Hertfordshire Arts \(uharts.co.uk\)](https://www.uharts.co.uk)

**Sarah Evans**

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