**SunSpaceArt – WS8**

*Art Worksheet – mixed media abstract collage about the Sun and space*

### Background

The SunSpaceArt project aims to inspire children and to develop creativity. The project brings together arts and science learning (STEAM). The team comprises scientists, space ambassadors and artists. The project is funded by the Science and Technology Facilities Council. For more information, see the www.sunspaceart.org website or contact info@sunspaceart.

This art worksheet is designed for teachers to deliver SunSpaceArt lessons independently.

**Level:** Year 5/6  
**Grade:** Key stage 2  
**Ideal Class size:** 30

### Introduction

Using mixed media to make imaginative, abstract artworks about the Sun, Solar System and space.

### Workshop plan

**Sun and space presentation (50 min)**  
Share information about the Sun, Solar System and space, with images and videos (40 min). Include demonstrations such as UV beads, infrared camera and/or diffraction glasses. Questions and discussion with children (10 min).

**Experiment with different materials (1 hr)**  
Introduce art materials: watercolour, soft pastel, oil pastel and collage (10 min). Discuss artists who have used these materials and how. Also explain what it means to work abstractly (i.e. not trying to represent something directly, but focusing on line, shape, colour and materials). Demonstrate colour mixing from primary colours to create secondary colours. Each student is given test paper to try out the four different media (40 min = 10 min for each). It may be easiest to have a table for each medium with students rotating round. Feedback on what it was like using the different materials (10 min).

**Mixed media collage (1 hr)**

Students then make a large collage based on the themes of the day, which can be abstract, not just representational. Encourage them to rip or cut pieces from their earlier experimental art to collage with. They can also draw or paint into the collage.

**Show and tell (15 min)**

Display all art works from the day on tables for the children to look at (few mins). Ask a volunteer to talk about another student’s work that they find inspiring. Then ask the student how they made the work (10 min). Ask the children to write feedback (on post-it notes or forms), what they have learnt and how they might explore this further (3 min).

### Materials:

- A5 tester paper – 1 sheet watercolour, 3 sheets black/colour paper for each student  
- A4/A3 colour paper  
- watercolours  
- soft pastels  
- oil pastels  
- scissors  
- pritt stick

### Additional resources

- Presentation on the Sun and space  
- Video on the scale of the planets and stars  
- Artists – Turner, Degas, Van Gogh, Matisse

### Extension

- Students to make a concertina book of drawings, facts and poems about the Sun, Moon and space.
Mixed media collages: examples of work by students