

Activity: Still Life & Filters

This activity, devised by artist Jeanne Blissett Robertson, invites you to create and share a series of still life photos made with filters using household ingredients and objects. You'll start by creating four different A4-size filters. Each filter can then be positioned over a still life composition adhered to your window. The final step will be taking a photograph of your composition using your four different filters. Experience how everyday materials can be transformed into playful and enigmatic images.

Share your photographs #TPGActivity



Filter 1:
Salt, Food
Colouring & hot water



Filter 2:
Tea



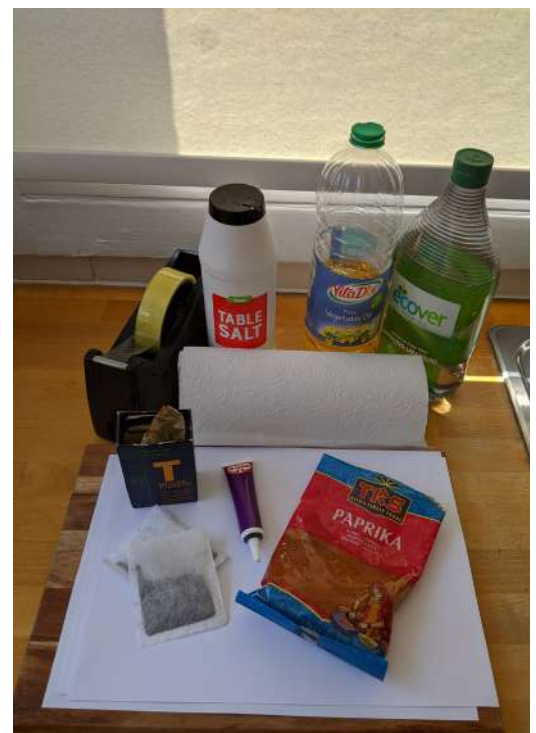
Filter 3:
Paprika paste &
turmeric



Filter 4:
Paprika & turmeric

You will need:

- 4 x A4 paper
- Paprika
- Turmeric
- 2 Tea bags
- Food colouring of any colour
- Washing up liquid
- Table salt
- Vegetable oil
- Kitchen paper
- Newspaper for drying
- Wooden chopping board
- Aprox 12x household items (flat and light enough to be stuck to window e.g, string, plastic from bag, bottle opener, wooden spoon, tissue paper, leaves etc)
- Clear tape
- Window



Instructions

Top Tips before you get started:

- Best to make the filters in morning/early afternoon to allow proper drying time
- Make the wet filters first to allow to dry (in the order of the instructions)
- Make sure filters are dry before oiling

1. Salt & Food Colouring



1. Put 1 tablespoon of salt, a drop of detergent and food colouring in a bowl



2. Mix together with 1 tablespoon of hot boiled water for about 1 minute



3. Put paper on newspaper and smear on mixture with a spoon



4. Leave to dry (approx 4-5 hours)

2. Tea



1. Scrunch up A4 paper then flatten out again



2. Pour a small amount of hot boiled water to cover teabags and leave to stew for 3 minutes



3. Use teabag to dab tea onto paper



4. Use the tea inside bag to rub onto paper, leaving it on the paper to dry (approx 4-5 hours)

3. Paprika Paste & Turmeric



1. Mix about 2-3 teaspoons of paprika with a small amount of hot water



2. Mix together forming a paste, should be tomato ketchup consistency



3. Use spoon to splat paste and create bigger shapes and leave to dry (approx 4-5 hours)

4. Paprika, Turmeric & Oil



1. Place A4 paper onto chopping board



2. Rub in a little vegetable oil with kitchen paper leaving an edge around border, dab excess off



3. Sprinkle paprika and turmeric onto oiled paper



4. Rub together and leave to dry for remaining time while other wet filters are drying

5. Final stages for filters



1. Rub off salt with hand into sink, oil the filter on clean wooden board, leaving border around edge, dab any excess oil off so not wet



2. Rub off tea with hand and leave to dry a little longer if still a bit damp (not long), oil the filter on clean wooden board leaving border around edge, dab any excess oil so not wet



3. Scrape off paprika paste gently with spoon, leaving to dry a little longer if damp underneath (not long), oil the filter on clean wooden board, adding turmeric in the gaps, leaving border around edge, dab any excess oil off so not wet



4. Pat off the excess powder from previously oiled Paprika and Turmeric filter

6. Window composition & photograph



1. Stick an array of items onto window with clear tape within A4 size, play with texture and form



2. Stick paper over items, avoiding any part of paper that has oil on it



3. Photograph filter and composition, filling camera frame (avoid bright sun directly behind window as the clear tape will be visible)



4. Repeat with all filters. Clean window in between with cloth and warm water then dry