



## Sustainable Waste 2 Art Prize

### Set (in) the Scene

Collage offers the opportunity to combine unusual materials in both 2D and 3D creations. Artworks can be constructed using a realistic or abstract focus and elements can be moved around and altered easily until the final design is complete.

Plastic packaging poses a huge problem to our community. It tends to only be used once, requires a large amount of oil and energy to make and will remain on the earth indefinitely – harming our precious ecosystem. Plastic can also be very bright, colourful and easy to use in art making so let's get them out of our environment and into our art!

### Steps

#### 1. What does a sustainable environment look like to you? Consider the following:

- Healthy plants and wildlife
- Environmentally friendly housing and transport
- Happy people.

Brainstorm responses to these questions, and use your ideas to come up with a design of a 'sustainable scene.'

2. Think about how you can depict your design through the medium of collage. Collage is an art form where individual pieces of material (traditionally paper, but for this artwork, plastic) are stuck onto a backing (often paper or cardboard) to create a design. Collage often works well when you have big and distinctive shapes. You can then add more detail in later.
3. Collect plastic packaging from around your school, house or community. Look for bright colours and patterns. Bring together all of the plastic you have collected and group it by colour. This way, you can share and easily find what you're looking for.
4. Before you get immersed into making your artwork, set aside some time for experimentation. Try using different backing materials and attachment styles (such as sewing onto used printer paper or using double-sided tape on old cardboard). Different plastic packaging will suit different attachment styles.

#### SUGGESTED MATERIALS

- Collection of salvaged plastic packaging
- Recycled cardboard to use as a base
- Used printer paper
- Ribbons
- Artificial flowers and leaves.



Make sure you give yourself lots of opportunities to experiment and practice before making your final artwork.

5. Once you've decided how to attach your artwork, it's time to start making! Cut and form plastic packaging to create your collage. Consider drawing your collage design on your backing material to help with this process.
6. When selecting plastic for your collage, you might prefer to be realistic in your colour choices (such as blue plastics for sky, green for grass) or be imaginative and abstract! Once large areas are completed, look at possible shadows, highlights and lowlights to add detail and complexity of colour from the plastic collection.
7. Once you've finished your design, have a look over it. Are all of the edges neat? Is all of the packaging attached securely? Also, think about how to display your artwork. Can you put it in a recycled frame or add D rings on the back so it can be hung on the wall?
8. Remember to recycle any leftover plastic packaging using the REDcycle program in major supermarkets.

