

Art Exploration

TISSUE PAPER COLLAGE



Inspired by the work of Eric Carle, author of *The Hungry Caterpillar*, create a colorful tissue paper collage!

Materials Provided:

Watercolor Paper
Assorted Tissue Paper

Materials Needed:

Paintbrush
Glue or Liquid Starch
Scissors (optional)
Additional Tissue Paper (optional)

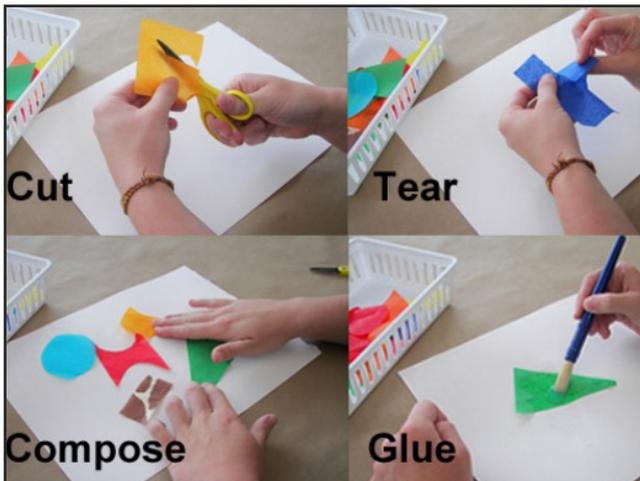
Instructions:

Eric Carle, one of the most celebrated children's picture book authors, is known for his unique and colorful artwork. Did you know he creates his pictures using collage?

A collage is any piece of artwork made up of different papers or objects, glued together. Eric Carle uses collage to create the illustrations for his books by cutting shapes out of tissue paper, painting over them with acrylic paint, and gluing them to a thick white board. With this project, you can make your own tissue paper collage, just like Eric Carle!

For inspiration before you begin, and to see how Eric Carle creates his pictures, visit his picture gallery on eric-carle.com.

1. For this project, you can create any picture or design you like. Begin by choosing a few different colors of tissue paper and either tearing or cutting different shapes (or both!) to give your picture some variety.



2. Without gluing anything down, experiment with the arrangement of shapes on your watercolor paper. What happens when you move a few pieces, or add or remove a new shape? Do you find yourself making pictures, or just combining shapes and colors in interesting ways?



3. When you're happy with your picture, start gluing down each piece using a large paintbrush or sponge. You can use liquid starch to glue down your pieces, or water down some Elmer's Glue to create a thin adhesive that won't tear the tissue paper. Be gentle!



4. What happens when you layer two pieces of tissue paper on top of each other? What about folding some of your shapes? Experiment with different ideas to make your picture unique. Once it's completely dry, you could also try using markers or gel pens on top of your collage.

*This project was provided by **The Eric Carle Picture Book Museum**. You can find other projects on their website, www.carlemuseum.org.*