

You might think I've got a bit of an obsession with owls if you've done any of the activities before, or ever been in my art studio at Ingestre - you're right - I do! Here's a super snowy Owl for you to collage. Find some old worksheets or some print-outs which you can cut up. - remember to ask if it doesn't belong to you...!

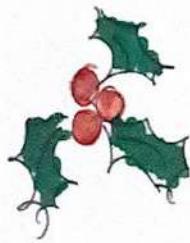
1. Start by sketching a rough outline - it doesn't need to have any features yet, just the shape is fine. Snowy owls have quite small heads. Have a search online for a picture you can use for inspiration.
2. Tear small strips of black and white text to make the feathers - start at the bottom and layer upwards - look at your picture online and check where the dark bits are, try to find some bits of black for those areas.

3. Use some white bits without any text for the head, save some good bits for behind his beak and the top of his head - if there's a bit of curly writing or you can do some hand-writing and tear it up to use! Be resourceful!

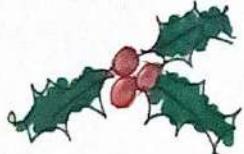
4. I spent ages looking for some yellow for his eyes (and ended up ripping the label off my glue stick!) You can always colour in a bit of paper and tear that if you can't find any. Pop some black eye-shapes on first, then stick your torn yellow eyes on top. Don't forget a 'pupil' from a tiny scrap of black. ☺, ☺

5. The next step is up to you - either you can collage around him or you can cut him out and put him on some different paper as a background - or leave him as he is! I've cut my owl out and popped him in the garland on my fireplace - he should be very cosy!





# A Melt of Snowmen



anyone who knows me well, knows I have a passion for Collective Nouns (the name for a group of things which are the same)

Here's the instructions to make a 'melt of snowmen'! Paper, scissars + a magarine - let's go!

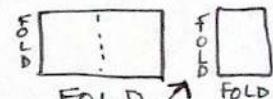
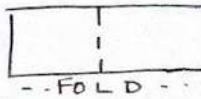
1. Fold an A4 piece of paper in half, lengthways



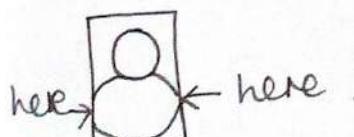
then into quarters and eighths

↙ 2nd fold

so that you end up with



2. Next draw on with a pencil two circles which connect. The most important bit of this part is that you make the circles touch the edges of the paper



Carefully cut them out to get two rows of four snowmen

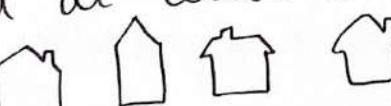
3. Next all linked together.

we can have some fun dressing them up for the cold weather. Be Creative!

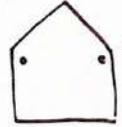


# Gingerbread House Garland.

I'm guilty - online shopping: I'm sure someone you know is too. But, we can use all those lovely boxes and cardboard envelopes to make a beautiful decoration for your home. Grab those boxes, a pen, a string of lights if you've got some and your scissors, and let's get busy!

1. Open out a box or two so that they are flat, now either draw on your house-shape (or cut it out freehand, like I did) so that you can use as much of the cardboard as possible. You need at least 5 houses to make it look great. 

2. Once you have your house shapes you can start to draw in the details. I used a white pen, but they look just as good with red, green, black or gold or silver if you want to be fancy! Think about adding windows, doors (don't forget letterboxes etc) and roof tiles.

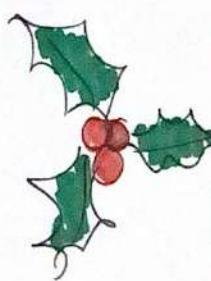
3. Next, you need someone to help you bodge some holes through at the side of each house  
→  ← to thread the string through.  
BE VERY CAREFUL!

4. Thread your houses onto the string (you need about 1.5 - 2m, but more if you're making more houses).

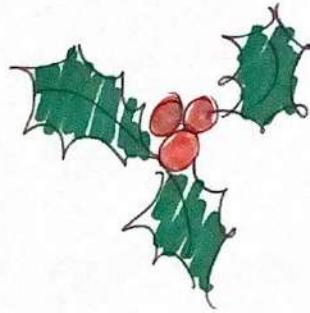
5. String your garland over a fireplace (making sure it's well away from any heat sources) add your fairy lights (if you've got some) and enjoy your creation.

We'd love to see your makes, share them with us using #StrayCreative so that we can see what you've made!

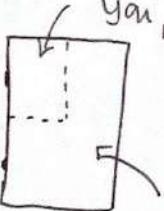




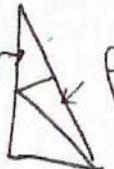
# Junk Mail Tree



You're going to need an old magazine or colour supplement, seed catalogue or similar which you would normally throw out for recycling.

1. Use the 'spine' of the magazine or catalogue and using a pair of scissors, cut out a rectangle starting at the edge:  


2. With your 'mini' magazine, start folding the pages, one by one, making a diagonal fold from the inside top corner, to the outside bottom corner  


If you have a bit which you need to fold again, fold it back  Keep doing this with all of the pages until you're finished.

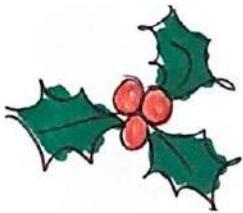
### 3. Keep folding!

As you get towards the end you will see that your 'tree' is taking shape. It just needs a little tweak to help it fan out and create a perfect shape. I've included a photo of some old book trees I made many years ago which live on top of our piano all year long!

You could make them with old books, magazines anything which is joined at one side with a 'spine'. Make a whole forest...?!

Happy Tree Making!





Who doesn't love snow? Follow the easy steps to make your own beautiful six-sided snowflakes and then create a hanging display for Winter. You'll need some white printer paper, or some newspaper (which I think looks super-effective) or some pages from a magazine with just text on them.

When you've made plenty (and hoovered up the mess, else ~~no-one~~ will thank you for this creation) you could find a branch to hang up and suspend them from...



1. FOLD INTO TRIANGLE

2. CUT OFF EDGE

3. UNFOLD TO REVEAL SQUARE

4. FOLD BACK INTO TRIANGLE

5. FOLD IN HALF TO CREATE CREASE

6. UNFOLD & FOLD EDGE UP

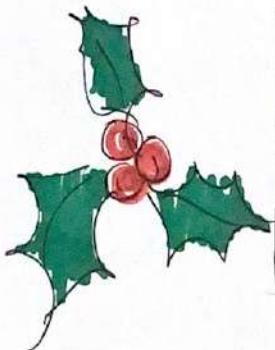
7. FOLD OTHER EDGE UP

8. DRAW THIS SHAPE

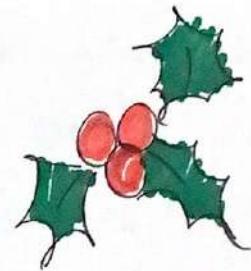
9. CUT IT OUT & UNFOLD





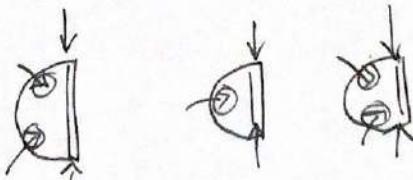


# • Beautiful Baubles •



Remember that magazine we were saving bits from - this 'make' will use all those bits up - so you need to grab that, some scissors, a gluestick and a bit of string or ribbon; Let's Go!

1. Keeping the pages together, draw round a circular object with a pen - I used a vase.
2. Holding tightly to ALL the pages, cut out your circles all together (this is a huge timesaver if you can master it!)
3. Fold all of the circles in half giving them a good crease.
4. Glueslick time...  
Doing one at a time,  
glue along the fold and in two or one places  
on the curved edge, keep adding to the pile  
and with the last one, stick it to the first by making  
a sphere.



5. Dip a short length of string into some glue and poke it down between all the circles in the middle. Let it dry and then you are ready to 'tweak it' ready for hanging.

