

Fall 2025



Queen Mary Elementary
Artists in Neighbourhoods
Sophie Hewitt & Narita Sargees

Collage

preschool +
kinders

some children combined drawing with collage

one child was unable to communicate verbally, but could through charades and would do a crab claw motion when he wanted help drawing crabs.

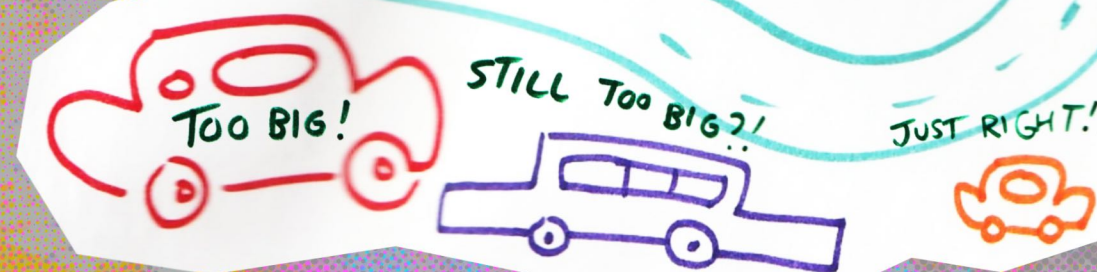
learning to use
scissors

it was interesting seeing what images children chose and how that showed their interests and personalities!

it's all animals!

Sophie also taught the same child a technique for using the glue stick on small pieces of paper (her little cars) and then she was able to do it herself afterwards!

one child found an image of a toy racetrack, and wanted to find a car to put in it we had to go through the whole magazine to find a car that fit, she said all of them were too big to fit in the track; it was really cool to see a child consider the believability of her collage image!



Colours & CREATURES

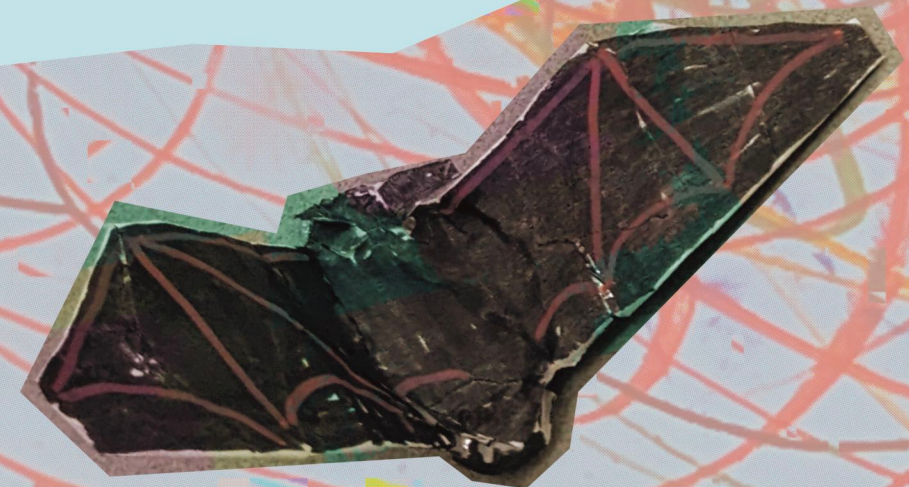
The preschool children followed instructions for taking care of the materials impressively well. We made colouring pages and provided a variety of art supplies that the kids could try, including soft pastels and tempera paint sticks, which the kids hadn't used before.

We explained how to use them and they followed our directions very well, making sure the lids were always on the markers and telling each other that the tempera sticks "are not glue", just like we told them at the start. The kids were very receptive to exploring the various mediums and how they could be used with each other.

With the tinfoil/tape sculptures, we demonstrated different things they could make. Sophie showed the kids how to make a bat since Halloween is this week, and the kids enjoyed figuring out how everything worked and eventually started creating their own original ideas and designs.

This was impactful because it demonstrated that the kids were learning and understanding the basics of sculpture and 3D forms, and how that can be used in art.

preschool + school age



PLAYDOH STAMPING

preschool + kinders

they also combined different inks in ways we hadn't even thought of, and created interesting coloured stamping

at first the children had some trouble with using the right amount of pressure at all parts of the process, but they were able to get the hang of it and eventually dab the ink on instead of pressing it!

how can we help young children to prioritize the process over the final product?

make the process fun & tactile!



PAPER CUTTING

The preschoolers had fun exploring how the rainbow pencils worked on the construction paper, and practicing their skills using scissors. Two of the kids held and used scissors properly for the first time!

learning

objectives:

scissor skills!

stickers as decorative art + self expression!

+

STICKERS

The school age kids had really interesting ideas about what to make stickers for. Many of them made labels for their water bottles, but one of the children did a set of christmas stickers, including snowflakes, a christmas tree, a snowman, and specific ornaments they said are hung on their family's tree. A lot of the kids also used the rainbow pencils for the first time, and were super interested in finding out how they worked and how they were made.

preschool + school age

Airdry Clay

preschool + kinders

Sensory experience

preschool loves water!

learning experience:
seeing how children
use sculpture for
imaginative play!
even the water dish
was used as an
ocean for their toy
"boats"!

the same child who communicates through
gesture did the crab claw gesture again to have
me help him with his clay crab
he was upset when the pincers wouldn't stick, but
after demonstrating using the water to meld the
clay together he was then able to do it himself
successfully, and was happy with his crab!

learning to be
resourceful
with tools!



SCRATCH BOARD

& WATERCOLOUR

One of the children in our preschool class was very intentional with his brushstrokes when using the watercolour paint. He spent a lot of time making swatches of each colour, seeing how they looked on the paper vs how they looked in the paint palette.

Another child meticulously covered her paper in layers of colour, starting with cool colours and building warm colour overtop. There was a lot of exploration into texture with the crayons being used under and over the paint, and with less vs more water being used.



preschool + school age



Scratch board went well with the school age group! One of the children made up a story about having a pet dragon at home. We asked her to draw it for us on the scratch board we brought. At first, she was very hesitant, but then she started drawing as she told her story. The dragon was named Davis, and even though she wasn't confident in her drawing skills, we encouraged her through it, and it was our favourite drawing of the day.

DAVIS the Dragon



Question:

How can educators foster confidence and self-sufficiency through art projects?

LAYERING & CANDLE HOLDERS



This week we did art with layering tissue paper & cellophane on paper. A few children really liked using the cellophane because of the way layering it created new colours, they were excited by the textures and colours that they could create in a variety of opacities.

With the kinders this week we did decorating little glass jars with tissue paper, so that they could put (battery operated) candles inside and see how the light shone through. One child did something really interesting, where she glued on a piece of dark green tissue paper and then took it off to reveal that the pigment had stuck to the glue, and she was super excited and fascinated by how it worked!

preschool + kinders



Collab Drawing & Candle Holders

preschool + school age

learning colours:
one child was very
interested in mixing
together new colours,
and was able to
identify them when
asked!

how can we encourage children to be
confident in their own abilities?

one child wanted to draw the
banana on his shirt over and
over, and was able to do it more
independently each time!

how can we
encourage
kids to
respect the
materials?



getting older kids to
participate can be
tricky, but they loved
this activity!

layering tissue
paper and
combining it with
the tea lights
shining through
was a great way
for children to
explore
transparency and
how it can be used
to create different
effects





BEADING & Final EXHIBITION

Using the beads and pipe cleaners, we were able to observe and help with the children's fine motor skills. The children also expressed understanding of patterns with the beads by being selective with where each bead would go.

The final exhibition for the term showed the children's candle holders lit up, placed on paper plaques they designed. Each candle and plaque demonstrated the unique voice of each child.