

Waterford Public School

Scratch Art Exploration

Making Learning Visible Through the Arts

Revealing Ideas Through Exploration and Discovery



The Children's Voices

“ Look at all the colours! ”
“ I didn't know that would appear. ”
“ I made Ronaldo. ”

Making Learning Visible

Children approached the scratch-art materials with curiosity and a willingness to experiment. As colours emerged from beneath the surface, children investigated line, pattern, shape, and image-making through a process of discovery.

Where Might This Lead Next?

How might children continue exploring pattern, symbolism, and visual storytelling through layered artistic processes?



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Pedagogical Reflection

What?

Children were invited to explore scratch art using sgraffito-inspired techniques, revealing vibrant colours hidden beneath black surfaces. The materials encouraged experimentation with line, texture, symbols, stencils, and freehand drawing. What began as an exploration of technique gradually evolved into opportunities for personal expression, creative decision-making, and visual storytelling.

So What?

As children engaged with the materials, their individual interests and ideas became visible. One child explored musical imagery while another created a human figure, demonstrating confidence, symbolic representation, and ownership of the artistic process. As the experience unfolded, children increasingly trusted their own ideas and made intentional artistic choices.

Now What?

Future invitations may continue through music-inspired visual storytelling, collaborative artmaking, symbolic representation, mixed-media collage, and larger-scale scratch art explorations.

The Hundred Languages

Visual Art, Storytelling, Symbolism, Music, Observation, Imagination, Communication, Mark-Making, Creative Problem-Solving, and Collaboration.

Educator Reflection

Working alongside the children during this exploration was both rewarding and inspiring. As confidence grew, children increasingly moved beyond the provided examples and began trusting their own ideas. What stood out most was the way each child approached the same materials differently, revealing unique interests, perspectives, and creative voices.

Documentation Highlights

- Children experimented with line, texture, and pattern through exploratory mark-making.
- Personal interests emerged naturally through symbols, musical imagery, and storytelling.
- Children demonstrated increasing confidence as they adapted materials and techniques to reflect their own ideas.
- Creative independence became visible as children moved beyond the provided stencils and created original representations.

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