

Collage Activity

Class: Primary 4-5

Subject: History/Art and Design

Duration: 30-40mins

Lesson Focus and Goals:

- Teach the children about the ways in which people have used and presented photographs throughout the past
- Compare to the ways in which they use photos today

Materials Needed:

- PowerPoint (provide in resource pack)
- White A3 paper
- Glue, Pens and Scissors
- Pictures of the children's favorite places in their local area
- Any arts and crafts from previous activities
- Paper questions to stick onto collage (sheet in resources)

CfE Learning Points:

- I understand that evidence varies in the extent to which it can be trusted and can use this in learning about the past SOC 1-01a
- I can compare aspects of people's daily lives in the past with my own by using historical evidence or the experience of recreating an historical setting. SOC 1-04a
- Having chosen personal themes and developed my own ideas from a range of stimuli, I can express and communicate my ideas, thoughts and feelings through 2D and 3D work. EXA 4-05a

Teacher Notes: This activity will first be introduced by a discussion on the uses of photos in the Victorian era and now. This will be aided by the teacher notes and PowerPoint.

The collage itself can be adapted by a teacher for their own specific lesson goals but we suggest doing this activity as a concluding activity, after doing a couple of our other activities first. The collage should include answers to questions relating to the workshop (sheet of these can be found in resource pack), pictures of the children's favorite places in St Andrews (or your local town), and any arts and crafts from other activities relating to photography you have undertaken (such as printed pictures from the portrait photography task or blueprints from the blueprinting activity.).

Background Information:

- Pictures were incredibly important to Victorians as they were expensive and difficult to take. Usually when Victorians were getting their picture taken it was for a special reason, such as a man going off to war or a wedding or a christening.
- Social class was also a factor in photograph taking, as it was incredibly expensive to take and develop a photo most photographs were either taken of rich people or the enthusiast and scientists that knew how to take and develop photos themselves. Even the scientists needed to be fairly well off as the equipment needed to do these processes were very expensive.
- Victorians mostly put their photos in photo albums or picture books, hung them on their walls/ displayed them in their homes or put them inside jewelry such as locket. Locketts and other jewelry were especially used when one was parted from a loved one for a long period of time.
- Victorians also did a lot of fun things with their pictures. Some examples of drawings and collages can be found on the PowerPoint slides.
- The Victorian picture of the royal family in 1865 is actually a series of pictures that have been cropped together. Prince Albert actually died in 1861 so the creation of this picture may have been another attempt to memorialise him by Queen Victoria who went stayed in mourning after her beloveds death until her own death, a period of nearly 40 years! This involved wearing black for almost 40 years, amongst other things.

Discussion Questions:

- How do you use your own photos?
- Do your parents post pictures of you on social media?
- How is the way we use photos today different from in the Victorian era?
- What do you think is wrong with this photo of the Royal family from 1865? Why would someone want to crop and edit a photo like this?

Activity Instructions:

- Firstly, there should be the discussion of how Victorians used photos aided by the PowerPoint and teacher notes.
- Following this there should be a discussion of editing photos and the ways in which photos were edited using the 1865 photo as an example.
- There should then be an introduction to the collage task, aided by the slides.
- The activity should conclude with the collage task where:
 - the supplies should be handed out to the children (paper, pens, glue, scissors, arts and crafts previously completed, homework task of brining photos of favorite places in local area, questions about how workshop has went.)
 - The children should then be told that they are telling a story of the History of Photography activities they have completed to someone who hasn't been present for the lesson. They are to try and tell the story of what they have learned through the visual creation of the collage.
 - The children should have 15minutes of so to fill in the questions and create their collage. Possibly more time depending on how many arts and crafts/photos the children have.
 - Once completed these collages make a nice classroom wall display or a great souvenir to take home to parents.

