## DAYTON ARTINSTITUTE

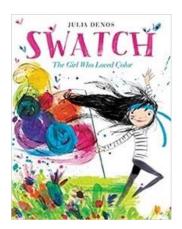


Time: 20-30 minutes

Messiness: low

**Adult involvement:** moderate

### **Fabric Color Collage!**



<u>Description:</u> young artists read about a young girl who collects colors, and then make a fabric collage based on colors that inspire them!

<u>Story: "Swatch: The Girl Who Loved Color"</u> written and illustrated by Julia Denos (Balzer + Bray; 2016)

#### Let's talk about this artwork!

- What do you see?
- What color do you notice first?
  - What other colors can you name?
- This artwork is made up of patterns that are cut-up and rearranged.
  - How many different patterns can you find?
  - Do you see wavy lines?Zigzags?
  - Which patterns can you find that use more than one color?



Image: Alix French (American, 1921–2006), *Untitled*, 1977, acrylic and cut and pasted canvas on canvas. Gift of the Artist's Family, 2018.21

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#### **Materials Needed**

- mixed media paper or cardstock
- 2) scissors
- 3) liquid glue
- 4) \*2 or 3: fabric squares, about 10"
- 5) optional: pencil

\*no fabric? Try this with patterned origami or scrapbooking papers!



#### **Project Skills**

- 1) Fine / Gross Motor
  - a) cutting
  - b) gluing
- 2) Language Development
  - a) expressive: speaking
  - b) receptive: listening
  - c) discussing
- 3) 21st-Century
  - a) critical thinking
  - b) creativity

#### **Project Instructions**

1) Cut or tear fabric into strips, about 1.5" to 2" wide. Repeat for remaining fabrics.

Helpful hint: are you drawn to light or dark colors? Warm colors like red, orange and yellow? Or cool colors like blue, green and purple? Choose at least three fabrics and tell someone why you chose them.



2) Using scissors, cut the strips into squares, rectangles, diamonds or triangles. You could even try a combination of all these shapes.

**Helpful Hint:** to cut squares, fold the left edge of the fabric up to the top edge (this makes a triangle, which is half of the square). Cut along the edge of the fabric. You can also use a pencil to trace lines for shapes. Ask a caregiver for help if needed.





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**3)** Arrange fabric shapes on the paper. See how many can fit **horizontally** (from left to right) and **vertically** (up and down). Arrange shapes in a pattern or try to cover all the white space by overlapping shapes.



4) When you have settled on an arrangement, glue the pieces down one row at a time.

**Helpful Hint:** put the glue on the paper and then pat the fabric down on top of the glue. If an area isn't sticking, dab a little glue under fabric's edge. Don't worry—the glue will dry clear.



5) Repeat steps of cutting, adding, and gluing fabric down for more rows.



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**6)** Allow your art to dry. You can trim it to an overall size or shape once fully dried. Or, make an art frame for your work!





Questions about or ideas for Tiny Thursdays at Home? Email edu@daytonart.org