

ARTS HEALTH ACTIVITY

**Create a textured collage inspired
by Izabela Pluta's, *An over air
pursuit of likeness***



Izabela Pluta, *An over air pursuit of likeness*, 2022

Latex-based ink-jet prints mounted on aluminium and repurposed timber easels, various dimensions.
Maitland Regional Art Gallery Collection and on loan from the artist

**MAITLAND
REGIONAL
ART GALLERY**

This art making activity promotes experimentation with materials, creativity and play. The activity is designed to be used with an accompanying video or on its own.

Have a long look



Take your time to have a look at Izabela Pluta's work, *An over air pursuit of likeness* (2022). This work consists of a series of digital photographs printed onto different sized aluminium panels with repurposed timber easels.

The digital images reference a photo that was taken of clouds seen through an aeroplane window by the artist's father, on the day her family emigrated to Australia from Poland in 1987.





You might like to think about and discuss the following questions. Please keep in mind there are no right or wrong answers and feel encouraged to come up with some imaginative responses.

- This work is made up of multiple panels and images, which one stands out to you the most? Why?
- What does this artwork make you think of?
- How would you describe it?
- How do you think it would feel to be in this artwork?
- Does this work feel like it has a sense of movement or does it feel still?
- This work references the sky and the weather, what is your favourite type of weather? Why?
- Does the work look textured or smooth?
- Do you like the artwork? Why / why not

Let's Get Creative

1

What you will need for this art making activity:

- 2 sheets of paper (water colour or thick paper is best), sponge or paintbrush, watercolour paints or ink or food dye, water, scissors, glue, tissues, salt.
- Extras: tissue paper.

You might like to experiment with all or some of the following paint applications.



Step 1.

- Gather your materials and make sure you have a nice clear space to work in.

2



Step 2.

Cut up a sheet of A4 paper in to 4 even sections.

Step 3.

Taking one of your cut pieces of paper, paint it entirely with colour. Then generously shake some salt over it and set aside to dry. You will notice the salt absorbing the water and shifting the pigment around the paper.

3



4



Step 4.

Take a second cut piece of paper, and again cover it completely with colour. While it is still wet, scrunch up a piece of tissue and gently dab it on the surface to remove some of the colour, giving the paper a dappled effect. Feel free to keep adding layers of colour and dabbing away sections until you create a desired result. Set aside to dry.

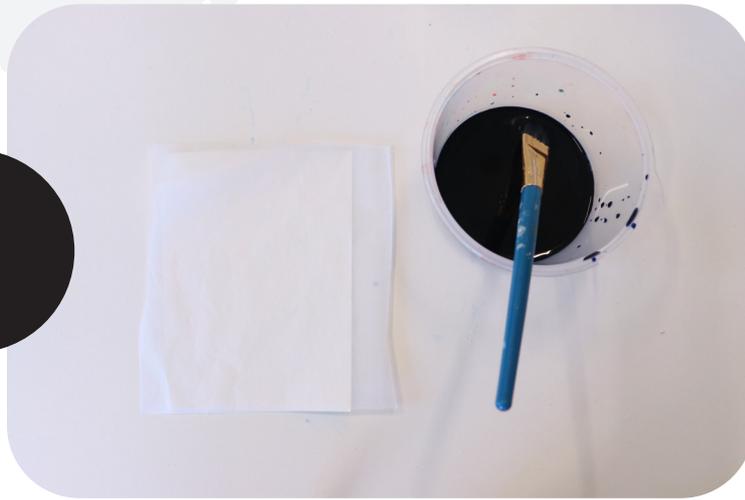
Step 5.

Take the third cut piece of paper, and using a clean brush and clean water, paint the surface with just water. Then using your paint brush or sponge, gently start to drop colour onto the wet paper. Watch the colour slowly disperse on the page. Set aside to dry.

5



6



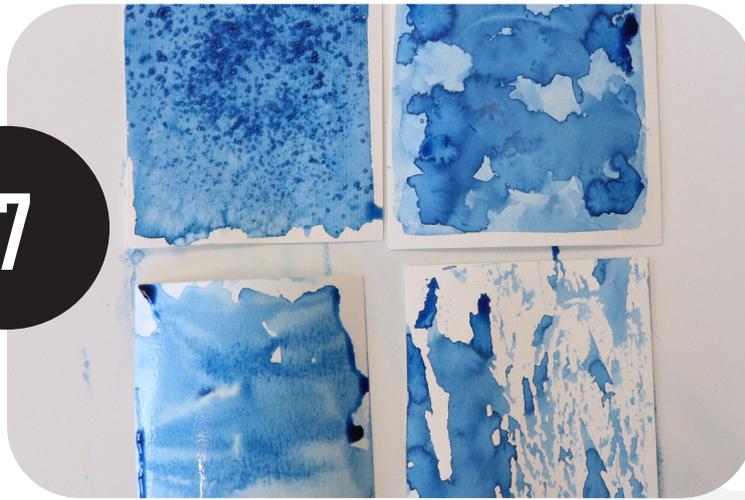
Step 6.

Place a small sheet of tissue paper on top of your fourth sheet of paper and then gently paint onto the tissue paper. Once covered, gently lift it off to create a rippled effect.

Step 7.

Once all 4 sheets of paper are dry, begin to tear them into pieces. Start arranging the torn sections into a square shape on your second sheet of paper, gluing them down as you go.

7



Reflection

Take some time to have a good look at your artwork once you feel it's complete. You might like to reflect on some of the following questions:

- What title will you give your art work?
- Can you describe the mood of your artwork?
- Which section do you like best?
- What do the different patterns and textures make you think of?
- If you created the work again, would you choose a different colour?