

Mixed Media Relief

From family days to camps, DCWM has hosted a variety of mixed media art projects. Here is how you can make your own mixed media relief on a board.

Supplies

- Wood, canvas, or mat board
- Craft or school glue
- Tweezers
- Lightweight, small objects you can glue on the board (objects with at least one flat side work best)



Ideas for mixed media objects

- Craft items such as beads, buttons, acrylic rhinestones, yarn, and pom-poms
- Look in a home office for pencil shavings and paperclips
- Cut shapes out of discarded paper such as junk mail, homework assignments, birthday cards, magazines, and maps
- Look through the recycle bin for discarded items such as canned food labels, gum wrappers and bottle caps
- Ask parents to cut up an old sheet or piece of clothing you have outgrown for fabric bits
- Lego pieces and other small plastic toy parts
- Broken jewelry and watches you can take apart to use the small gears
- Look around your yard for small sticks, dried leaves, flowers, seeds, and sand

Optional

- Colored pencils
- Markers
- Acrylic paint
- Stencils
- Sandpaper

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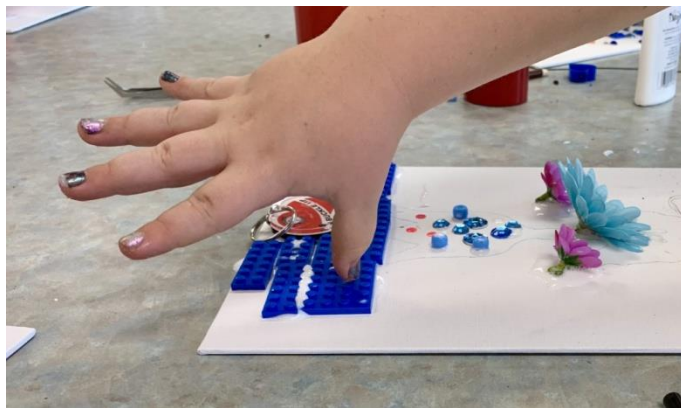
Step 1: Select a board for your project. If you selected wood and the surface has a hard coating, for example a polyurethane finish, lightly sand the surface so the glue will adhere.

Step 2: Draw an outline of a shape. You can use a stencil for this step.

Step 3: Begin to plan your masterpiece by laying out the items within the shape.



Step 4: Once you have determined your final design, begin gluing down each object.



Tips for working with glue

- Read the label and follow the instructions regarding dry time and safety precautions.
- Use tweezers for small objects.
- Keep hands and utensils clean to avoid the object sticking to you instead of the board.

Step 5: After everything is in place, allow it to dry completely. Resist the temptation to touch it!

Step 6: Once dry, you have the option to fill in small gaps with a colored pencil to help define an area, pattern, or shape.



In addition, you can paint the background and objects with acrylic paint. Markers can be used to add lines, patterns, and text.



So many possibilities with mixed media!