

Collage Composition & Visual Hierarchy

Use placement, scale, overlap, cropping and contrast to organise a collage around a clear focal idea.

LEARN • PRACTISE • CREATE • REFLECT

Original BrightPencil Kids resource - adult-led where appropriate

A4 edition • 12 purposeful pages • review copy

Print. Learn. Grow.

Grown-up guide

Learning objective

Use placement, scale, overlap, cropping and contrast to organise a collage around a clear focal idea.

Use this pack well

- Model the first example aloud, then let the learner try.
- Ask “How do you know?” more often than “Are you finished?”.
- Use real objects, talk, movement or observation when the activity suggests it.
- Stop or shorten the session if attention or enjoyment drops.
- Open-ended pages can have many successful answers.

Quality note

This resource was written originally for BrightPencil Kids. Curriculum sources informed scope and progression only; no third-party worksheet or story text is reproduced.

Learn the idea

1 Composition is the arrangement of visual elements.

2 Visual hierarchy helps viewers notice some information before other information.

3 Overlap and cropping can create depth or emphasis.

Talk about it

Explain one idea in your own words. Give an example from real life, a drawing or an object if that helps.

Arrange paper shapes in three different compositions before gluing.

Create one clear focal point using scale or contrast.

Use overlap to suggest foreground/background.

Crop one shape at the edge to create movement.

Compare a crowded and balanced layout and explain the difference.

Try it beyond the page

Real-world / hands-on connection

Use scrap paper or reusable materials rather than cutting valued books, photographs or protected artwork.

Before you finish

What did you notice?

What evidence, object or example helped you?

What would you change if you tried again?

Create something

Your project

Create an original collage titled “Movement Through a City” or another self-chosen theme and write a short artist note.

Use this space for planning, drawing, mapping, designing or notes.

CHALLENGE

Think deeper

1. What is composition?

2. How can scale create hierarchy?

3. Why plan before gluing?

Quick review

1. In one sentence, explain the big idea of “Collage Composition & Visual Hierarchy”.

2. Draw or write one example that shows you understand.

3. Choose one activity from this pack and explain the strategy you used.

4. Write one question you still have.

Answer & discussion notes

Use these as guidance, not scripts. Open questions can have different successful responses when the reasoning is sensible and evidence-based.

1. Suggested response

How visual elements are arranged.

2. Suggested response

A larger element may attract attention first.

3. Suggested response

It allows experimentation and revision.

Review before publication

Check age fit, factual accuracy, clarity, accessibility, rights provenance and whether the activity works in practice. This file remains a review copy until those checks are signed off.

FINISH

My learning reflection

I finished this BrightPencil learning pack.

One thing I understand better now:

A strategy that helped me:

Something I created or noticed:

My next small question or goal:

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