

shape & form



Kate Sully is an artist from Sheffield who makes large-scale paintings. If you look closely at Kate's artworks, you'll see she uses a technique called collage to make them. She prints out scientific pictures of the brain, cuts them up and sticks them to her background, then paints over the top with bright colours.

Kate is interested in how the human brain works. The brain is the main control room in the body. It manages our thoughts, memory, speech and movement and decides how many of our organs work. Have you ever thought about where your thoughts and feelings come from and what makes you you? We're going to make a piece of art that explores just that!

Before we get started, take a moment to make a list of some of the things that mean a lot to you or make you happy. It could be your favourite colour, favourite word, your pet (if you have one) or favourite animal, things you like to do - maybe dance or a sport or art or singing, your favourite food, a place that makes you feel happy, your favourite band or singer. Keep these in mind as we start the activity.

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What you need

- A piece of paper
- A pen or pencil
- Old magazines, newspapers, leaflets or catalogues
- Glue – a glue stick will work best!

Activity

Find a piece of paper or plain surface to work on, like the inside of a cereal packet. Take a pen or a pencil and draw the outline of your head. Look around for magazines, newspapers, leaflets or catalogues. Ask an adult if it is ok for you to use what you find! Cut out words or pictures that mean something to you or make you happy. Arrange them inside your drawing. Think about where you place them. What colours look good together? Do some words fit next to some pictures? Why not try overlapping things to make interesting layers? Once you like where you've placed everything, stick it all down. You've made a piece of art that expresses who you are!

Find out more

A famous Spanish artist called Joan Miro also used collage to make artworks. He loved bright colours and made his paintings on lots of different types of surfaces too. Ask an adult to help you find out more about Miro.

Challenge yourself

Can you make a painting like Joan Miro or Kate Sully? Why not choose one of the words or pictures in your collage and make an abstract painting about it.