

Parents and Prams

Australian Landscape Collage

Use a range of vocabulary and have lots of fun crafting with your littles ones.

After you've finished the activity, why not visit the images in person and see the exhibition *A Portrait of Australia: Stories through the lens of Australian Geographic* at Redland Art Gallery, Capalaba. On display until Saturday 11 July 2020.

For this activity you will need:

- *A Portrait of Australia* landscape images (see photos below)
- A4 cardboard
- Coloured paper
- Coloured tissue paper
- Coloured crepe paper
- Recycled cardboard or corrugated paper
- Scissors
- Glue and cotton bud applicator
- Natural items (paperbark, mulch, sand, dried leaves, dried flowers and more)
- Synthetic items (cotton balls, pom poms, pipe cleaners and more)



Along the Birdsville Track, near Birdsville, Qld
Photo by Colin Beard. Courtesy of the artist.



Cape of Contrast, Cape to Cape track, WA
Photo by Andrew Gregory. Courtesy of the artist.

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Redland Art Gallery is an initiative of Redland City Council
and is dedicated to the late Eddie Santagiuliana.

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1. Ask your child to choose one of the *A Portrait of Australia* photos on the previous page and together start looking at it and talking about the composition (placement of elements on the image).

Spending some time describing the landscape will help your child immerse themselves in the activity and give them the necessary language to use throughout the activity.



Here are some ideas:

- **What can you see in this photo?**
- **What can you see in the foreground/background/middle ground?**
- **What colours do you see?**
- **Show them horizontal/vertical/diagonal lines**
i.e. the sky, the grass, the road and other elements you can see.
- **Point to the clouds, the waves, the bushes and describe their textures.**
- **Point to the people too! What are they doing? How do you think they feel?**
- **Is it hot/cold in this picture? How can you tell?**
- **What do you think the surfer/person walking can hear?**

You can also talk about a similar experience of a day you have spent out in nature with your child. Doing this will help find the words to describe the scene in the picture.

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2. Lay your materials on the table.

Using the description observed in the previous step, help or encourage your child to choose the material you think best represents your chosen image and set the others aside.



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3. Starting with the horizontal/vertical/diagonal background show or encourage your child to cut or tear the coloured papers and glue them in place on your cardboard using glue and a cotton bud applicator.



4. Once your background is finished, show or encourage your child to tear, cut, scrunch the different coloured papers to best represent your impression of the Australian landscape. Glue them in place, focusing now on the foreground and middle ground.

Right now is a great opportunity to practice spatial awareness language by describing out loud what your child is doing.



Use words such as:

**in front of | behind
right | left
between | around**

**on top | under
in the middle | next to
at the top | at the bottom**

5. Why not add some textures. Help or encourage your child to use the natural and synthetic loose parts to create different textures to your collage.



Try:

**Cotton balls could become waves or clouds.
Scrunched paper could make bushes.
Pipe cleaners could become roots!**



Have fun and share your creations with us by tagging
[@redlandartgallery](#) [@chezbeauvardia](#) #RA@athome

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