

SKILL

Spatter technique: making a picture with spattered papers

Time
2 hours

Links
People who help us/Science/Water

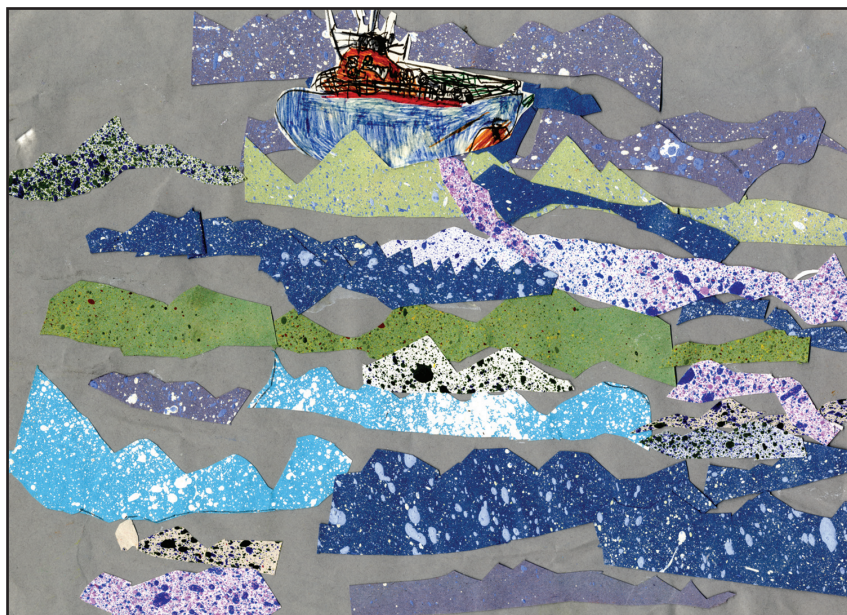
Resources
Newspaper to cover tables
Some old washing-up brushes, nail brushes or toothbrushes
A few old combs
Paper plates for the paints
Coloured felt tips

Per small group of children:
Ready-mixed colours: brilliant and cyan blue, white and green

For each child:
Sketchbook or paper
1 fine-line black pen
2 or 3 sheets of any A4 paper
A4 piece of grey sugar paper
Protective clothing (including goggles if you want to play safe)

For the teacher:
Paper to demonstrate spatter technique
For this picture, access to information and pictures of lifeboats

National Curriculum
2a, 4a,c, 5a



Thomas Ellis, Year 3 (lifeboat at sea)

Practical activity

- * Demonstrate how to spatter paint:
 1. Dip a tooth/nail/washing-up brush in one of the paints and hold the brush over the paper (try not to drip on the paper – this is difficult).
 2. Pull the bristles back towards yourself and, using an old comb or your fingers, aim the bristles at the paper and release them.
 3. As you release the bristles, the paint should splatter all over the paper and probably yourself as well if you have pointed the bristles in the wrong way.
- * Ask the children to spatter a piece of paper in just one colour, and then experiment with two colours, eg two shades of blue.
- * They each need to do two or three sheets in different sea colours; white on dark blue and green looks good.
- * While some children are taking turns, the others could be researching lifeboats, drawing them in their sketchbooks and then drawing one on paper.
- * This can be coloured with felt tips in the correct lifeboat colours.
- * When the spatter papers are all dry, the children should cut out wave shapes from different-coloured sheets and stick them onto their grey backgrounds. The lifeboat can be stuck down riding the waves or dwarfed by a giant wave.
- * The whole picture could be over-spattered with white to represent sea spray.

Note

You will need another activity for the rest of the class while a few at a time are spattering paint, unless you have an adult to assist. They could be researching about the Lifeboat Association and drawing lifeboats in their sketchbooks. You also might want to try out the spatter technique, following steps 1–3, before demonstrating.

Introduction

Paint can be applied to a surface in lots of different ways, not just with a brush. You can dribble it, roller it, splat it, print it, sponge it, even throw it onto the paper. Each way creates a different effect. Today you are going to spatter the paint, and when the paint is dry you will be cutting it up and sticking it on paper to create a rough sea picture. Then you can stick on a drawing of a ship riding the waves.