



A Tribute to Pollock: Action Art (Without the Mess)

Kids channel Jackson Pollock's energy using a contained, low-mess method. We work on the back side of a stretched canvas so the wooden edges create a shallow tray. First, students "warm up" by rolling clean paint balls inside the frame to practice control and keeping movement within the edges. Next, they add colorful "plops" of paint onto the canvas back and tilt the frame side-to-side and up-and-down, letting the paint balls glide and swirl to spread color. The result is a whimsical, abstract composition—minimal splatter, maximum fun.

Session Flow (50-60 min)

- Hello + visual agenda (5 min)
- Warm-up mark-making (5 min): roll paint balls on a dry canvas back to practice pathways
- Main project (25 min): add paint "plops," then tilt to guide paint balls; quiet table available for a calm option
- Gallery walk / photograph work (5-10 min, optional)
- Cleanup & wrap artwork to-go (10 min)

Skills & goals: cause-and-effect, motor planning, color layering, and studio routines—while keeping materials contained and cleanup easy.

This project can be a 1, 2, or 3 workshop session for ages 1-adult. All abilities.



Transfer & Symmetrical Design Tote Bags

Artists explore symmetry and image transfer to create wearable art. We begin with a quick discussion and visual examples of symmetrical artwork in nature and design, then demonstrate how to transfer paint by folding paper to make a mirror image. After showing a finished tote example, students sketch or plan one side, use puffy paint pens (or fabric paint) to create abstract/expressionist designs, and then press to transfer the image to the opposite side—revealing a striking, symmetrical tote. (A quiet table remains available for a calm option.)

Session Flow (50–60 min)

- Hello + visual agenda (5 min)
- Warm-up mark-making (5 min): mini-lesson on symmetry + quick paper transfer demo
- Main project (25 min): insert cardboard in tote, design one half with puffy paint; fold/press to transfer; add details; quiet table available
- Gallery walk / photograph work (5–10 min, optional)
- Cleanup & wrap artwork to-go (10 min)

Skills & goals: symmetry and pattern recognition, fine-motor planning, composition, process-to-product thinking, and pride in creating functional, wearable art.

This project can be a 1, 2, or 3 workshop session for ages 4–adult. All abilities.



Textile Patchwork Masks

Artists design expressive masks using heavy mask bases, glue, and a wide variety of textile scraps and mixed materials. We explore how layering fabrics (felt, denim, lace, tulle) with trims (yarn, ribbons, buttons) creates rich textures and bold characters. After a quick demo on building from large shapes to small details, students plan a face or creature and collage fabrics in overlapping patches to form features, patterns, and depth. (A quiet table remains available for a calm option.)

Session Flow (50–60 min)

- Hello + visual agenda (5 min)
- Warm-up texture study (5 min): handle/compare fabric swatches; quick mini-collage on paper to test glue + layering
- Main project (25 min): choose mask base; glue large fabric shapes first, then layer smaller patches/trim for features; optional embellishments; quiet table available
- Gallery walk / photograph work (5–10 min, optional)
- Cleanup & wrap artwork to-go (10 min)

Skills & goals: texture recognition, fine-motor control, sequencing (big-to-small layering), composition, and character/identity expression—while practicing tidy studio routines and safe adhesive use.

This project can be a 1, 2, or 3 workshop session for ages 4–adult. All abilities.



Picasso & Cubism

Artists build bold, Cubist-inspired portraits using canvas, shape cut-outs, Sharpies, and watercolors. We start by exploring how Cubism breaks faces into geometric parts and multiple viewpoints. Students arrange pre-cut shapes to construct a face, then trace and define features with Sharpie before adding watercolor washes to bring color and depth to their compositions. (A quiet table remains available for a calm option.)

Session Flow (50–60 min)

- Hello + visual agenda (5 min)
- Warm-up: shape exploration (5 min): try different face layouts with paper shapes; quick line practice on scrap
- Main project (25 min): plan composition on canvas with shapes; trace/outline with Sharpie; add watercolor to fill features; quiet table available
- Gallery walk / photograph work (5–10 min, optional)
- Cleanup & wrap artwork to-go (10 min)

Skills & goals: geometric thinking, composition, line control, color layering, and creative risk-taking—while learning how Cubism reimagines portraits through shapes and multiple perspectives.

This project can be a 1, 2, or 3 workshop session for ages 4–adult. All abilities.



Jean-Michel Basquiat Self-Portraits

Artists create expressive self-portraits inspired by Jean-Michel Basquiat using watercolor paper, a Basquiat-style self-portrait printable (download below), oil pastels, and watercolors. We explore Basquiat's visual language—crowns, bold lines, layered color, symbols, and words—then render our own portrait, enhancing it with classic Basquiat details, imagery, and text. Oil pastel lines act as a resist so watercolor washes pop with vibrant energy. (A quiet table remains available for a calm option.)

Session Flow (50–60 min)

- Hello + visual agenda (5 min)
- Warm-up: marks & symbols (5 min): quick line practice, build a “symbol bank” (crowns, stars, simple icons, key words)
- Main project (25 min): use the printable or a light sketch for facial placement; outline with oil pastels; add personal symbols/words; layer watercolor washes for color and depth; quiet table available
- Gallery walk / photograph work (5–10 min, optional)
- Cleanup & wrap artwork to-go (10 min)

Skills & goals: expressive line, text-and-image storytelling, color layering with resist, personal symbolism, and confidence in portrait composition—while keeping materials organized and cleanup easy.

This project can be a 1, 2, or 3 workshop session for ages 4–adult. All abilities.