

Artist Activities

With Mikala Dwyer

Step 1 – Build a cubby

Under a table, behind the couch, in a wardrobe, under a tree, between chairs, in a corner. Use anything you can find like old sheets, towels, blankets, cardboard boxes, brooms, pegs. This becomes something like the space an artist might use for a studio.



Step 2 – Collect some stuff

Things like wood, stones, water, colour, light, colour, animal pictures, dead insects, toys, buttons, sticks, coloured paper, fabric, flowers, orange peel, the sun, shadows, a glass, socks, plastic, a torch...

Step 3 – Find your magical super powers...

Pretend they are in the materials you have collected and that you can charge up their energy in your cubby house. Choose one or a few that you like.

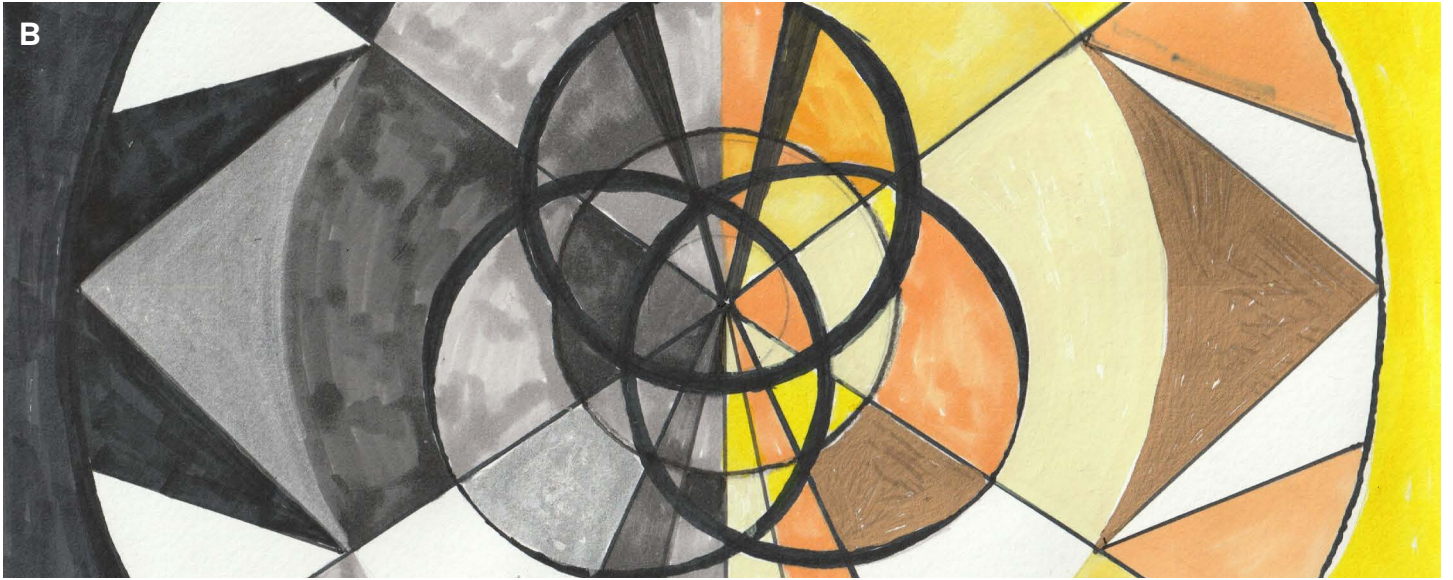
Step 4 – Work out what powers you would like your material to have.

You can make up the magic powers as you like. Wood could be like a tree power, taking you down through the earth with the roots. Light could be like a sun power, taking you up high into the sky. Stones could take you back in time and water might make you invisible.

Step 5 – Try combining powers by arranging them in shapes on the floor of your cubby.

Circles, triangles, squares. Or, combine powers by attaching one material to another. For example: rock and light to a wooden chair can become like a spaceship that goes up and down and back in time.





Step 6 – When you need to change things up or if you are tired, have a sleep in your cubby and dream up a personal magic power symbol. Then:

A. Do a drawing using simple shapes. Maybe they are triangles, lines, circles, squares, ovals, star shapes, using curved or straight lines. Fold an A4 piece of paper in half and make your shapes centred and overlapping. Colour them in.

B. Fold an A4 piece of paper in half then crumple it up. Flatten it out and see if you can draw some lines following the creases to make shapes. Centre it in the middle crease. This will make a more organic symbol different to the first more geometric one. Colour it in when you are happy with your shapes.

You could design a magic power symbol for a friend, embellish it onto old clothing or turn it into a flag for your cubby!

Above: Geometric shapes from overlapping simple shapes (inspired from virus dream) Below: Organic shapes from crumpled paper. (inspired from pigeon dream)

