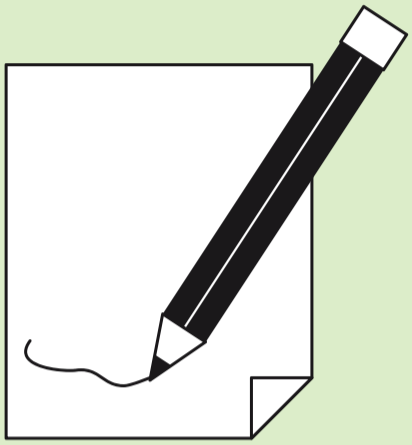


Greenhillock at Home

HERE'S LOOKING AT ...



WHAT YOU NEED

This activity is about noticing the interesting in everyday objects and views. As we are writing this on a cold and windy day it focuses on things you can do inside but as ever you can adapt it.

Camera or smartphone
Cardboard
Cutting board and craft knife or scissors
Glue or staples

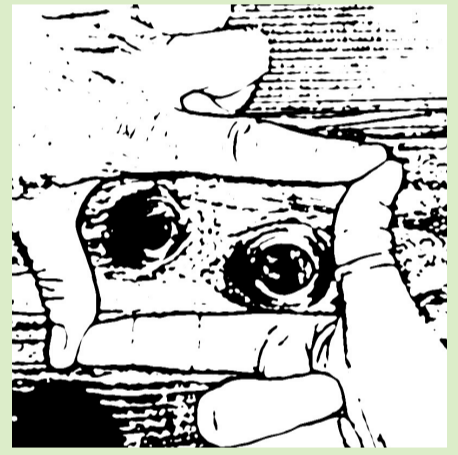
For the What Next section:

Sticks
Twine
Foraged materials

STEP 1

Warm up your looking skills

Start by using your thumbs and forefingers to make a rectangular frame. Bring the frame up to your face and use it to explore. You can be inside or outside to do this. Frame views with your finger viewfinder. Look at things that are far away and really close up. Take notice of textures, colours and shapes.



STEP 2

Make a cardboard frame

This will act as your viewfinder, helping you frame images. Decide what size viewfinder you want to make. Small ones work really well to look at things in close up like most of the images in the photo book.

Next choose the shape of your view finder. Working with cardboard means rectangular and square shapes will be the easiest. You can either make your viewfinder by cutting out strips of cardboard and stapling or gluing them into shape or simply cut a hole in a single sheet of card.

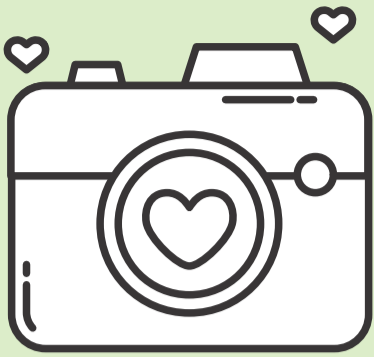
STEP 3

Get viewing

Use your cardboard viewfinder to find images you want to capture. If you are inside, why not look in the kitchen for interesting objects? What happens if you get the viewer really close to vegetables or pasta shapes? Or look at the carpet and curtains, are there patterns you can use? Craft materials can also help you create unusual images. Look for contrasting colours and textures. Use the photo book for inspiration.



STEP 4



Once you have chosen some interesting views or objects decide if they make an image on their own or if you want to 'compose' them in some way. Experiment with whether portrait or landscape format frames your image best.

If you like your image as it is, lay or hold your viewfinder over it and use your camera to snap a picture. It might be easier to work in pairs with one person positioning the viewfinder and the other taking the photo.

STEP 5

If you want to make a more complex image try arranging your object or objects on a background. You could use coloured paper, fabric or even a chopping board to create a background. Arrange your materials in an interesting or surprising way.

Are you going to shoot your image straight down from above or position the viewfinder in a different way such as at an angle? This is a modern version of painting a still life.



WHAT NEXT

Take it outside

Now you've got your eye in inside, why not take your skills out into the garden or the park? Outside the views can (but don't have to) be bigger so you might want to up size your viewfinder. An easy way to do this is by collecting sticks and tying them together to form a square, rectangle, or even circle. If you want to keep working in close up that's fine, your cardboard viewer will work outside too.



STEP 1

If you have made a stick frame, use it to frame an existing image on the ground. As inspiration you could try searching for something which has been transformed by something else. Leaves which have blown to the ground in the wind, pine cones that are nibbled, or fungi which have decayed.

Or you could capture a distant view you enjoy. You could even try hanging your viewfinder from a tree or washing line so viewers can enjoy 360 degree views.

STEP 2

Create your own image in your frame

Gather together sticks, stones, leaves, pine cones and anything else interesting. Use the size of your frame to set a scale for your artwork.

Get to work on your own 3D still life creation. Draw inspiration from your favourite animals or places.



We would love to see your finished creations and hear your stories. Please post pictures and videos to our Facebook page or email kate@greenglamping.co.uk.