

Textured Fibre Landscape

Lesson plan prepared by Renée Brazeau, Art Education Assistant and Emma Hoch, Gallery Animator for the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia.

Suggested Grade/Age Levels

Recommended for ages 5+, with adult assistance

Introduction

This activity is inspired by the work of Deanne Fitzpatrick. Fitzpatrick creates intricate colourful rugs using wool cloth and a technique called rug hooking. Having grown up in Freshwater, Placentia Bay, Newfoundland, and now working out of her studio in Amherst, Nova Scotia, her work often depicts maritime landscapes.

For this activity we will be creating our own textured landscape art out of materials that are commonly found at home such as fabric and yarn.



Deanne Fitzpatrick, *Mystery in the Sky*, 2016
Wool cloth, wool yarn and linen, 61.0 x 61.0 cm
Art Gallery of Nova Scotia Permanent Collection
Gift of the Artist, Amherst, Nova Scotia, 2017, with assistance from
the Fred and Elizabeth Fountain Endowment for Contemporary Art.

Set Up

- Large flat workspace
- Materials nearby

Materials

- A piece of flat cardboard
- Permanent marker
- Pencil and paper
- Scissors
- Assorted textiles: yarn, fabric, embroidery floss, string
- Glue: white glue or hot glue (with adult assistance)

Process

1. Find or imagine a landscape image you like or connect with. Sketch your drawing on paper with the pencil to decide your composition. Think about big shapes like the land, water, and clouds first, then add smaller shapes like houses or rocks. Don't worry about being too detailed with this drawing.
2. Using your pencil, draw the image onto the cardboard, and then outline with marker to emphasize the lines.
3. Find and collect textile fibres you have at home such as fabric from old clothing or clean rags, yarn, embroidery floss, or string.
4. Think about what textures and colours you want to create within your landscape and which materials you want to use for each section of your landscape, such as blues for the sky or greens for the grass.
5. Cut the fabric into the large shapes of your landscape first, like the sky and land and then cut smaller shapes for trees, houses, or clouds.

6. Glue the fabric pieces onto the cardboard, starting with the larger shapes first, then adding details on top.
7. Add string or yarn on top of the large fabric pieces to create patterns or movement in your textured collage. Allow to dry.