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Te toi piripiri | Collage

Collage involves combining different materials such as paper, fabrics, and natural objects to create art. Collage encourages creativity, fine motor skills, decision-making and using your imagination. Tamariki can choose their own materials and create something that is entirely their own.

Links to *Te Whāriki*

Collage provides opportunities for tamariki to discover and develop different ways to be creative and expressive and communicate their ideas and feelings through the materials they use and the creations they make (**Communication | Mana reo**).

Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga
Ministry of Education

Te Poutāhū
Curriculum Centre

8 Te toi piripiri | Collage

Collage can help tamariki to:

- be creative and learn about multi-media art and design, patterns, dimension, and composition
- experiment with different materials, textures and colours
- learn skills such as glueing, sticking, taping, stapling, cutting and tearing
- work alongside other tamariki to share materials, tools and ideas
- explore the pictures, patterns and words of their own and other cultures.

Adults can support tamariki by:

- encouraging them to explore the materials and experiment with different ways to combine them
- demonstrating how to cut, tear, and manipulate the materials to create different shapes and textures
- showing them how to use tools, such as scissors and staplers, properly and safely
- making suggestions and asking open-ended questions to help them to reflect on their work
- using rich descriptive language about what they are doing and materials they are using, e.g. "The glue is very sticky, isn't it? I can see that it is helping the gritty sand stay on the paper"
- providing opportunities for tamariki to collaborate — working together and sharing resources to reflect communal cultural values.

Providing for collage

A flat, low table is useful. Keep collage items in separate containers, well stocked with a wide variety of resources and displayed next to the table (not on it). This allows tamariki to help themselves and have an uncluttered space to work at. Tamariki can use collage materials outside as well as inside.

For safety, collage items need to be non-poisonous, and larger than 5 cm if they are for under 3 year olds. Consider tikanga and cultural values when harvesting flora and fauna e.g. leaving the central shoot and leaves either side when harvesting harakeke (flax bush). You could talk with tamariki about respecting nature such as only collecting leaves and flowers that have fallen from the tree.

The pā harakeke (flax) can be a metaphor for a living whakapapa, representing a whānau, hapū and iwi. The rito (centre blade) is the baby. It is surrounded by its parents, siblings, cousins, aunties, and uncles, and they are surrounded by tīpuna/grandparents/ancestors. It is important to only remove the external blades to protect the rito. It is customary practice (tikanga) to say karakia to clear the way before cutting the blades of the harakeke and to return the unused blades to the earth once work is completed.

Ideas for equipment

- tools such as strong glue, round-ended scissors, staplers, tape, string
- large and small boxes, cartons, tubes, containers, lids
- fabric — velvet, lace, cotton, wool, hessian (all colours and thicknesses)
- paper and cardboard — white, coloured, lined, unlined, greeting cards, envelopes, crepe, silver, cellophane, magazines
- string, cord, wool, tape, twine (all colours and thicknesses)
- markers and crayons.