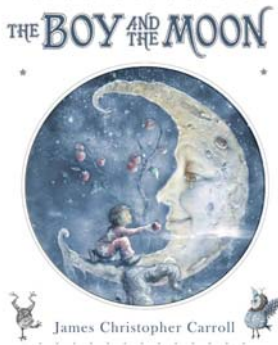


The Boy and the Moon

Written and illustrated by James Christopher Carroll
The Art of Collage and Storytelling



The arts can contribute to academic success and the emotional well-being of children. There is no right and no wrong in collage. A child can create an original piece of art and use their imagination to create a story to match!

“The method I use to create my images is very similar to collage. Painting, found objects, and textures from nature, all play important roles in the finished illustrations. Sand, moss, bark, rusted metal, rocks, wallpaper, hair, peeling paint and feathers are some of the items that I use as the “medium” for my pictures. For example, the swirling night sky originated from a beautiful piece of worm eaten bark, while the cratered surface of the moon is modeled from beach sand.”

James Christopher Carroll

“In our fast-paced, media-driven world, storytelling can be a nurturing way to remind children that their spoken words are powerful, that listening is important, and that clear communication between people is an art.”

www.Storyarts.org

A **collage** (from the French: *coller*, to glue) is a work of art. In visual arts, a collage is an original piece of artwork composed of a variety of materials, assembled to create a unique piece of art.

A collage may include newspaper clippings, ribbon, sandpaper, bits of colored or hand-made papers, portions of other artwork, photographs, strings, feathers, a piece of moss or objects found in nature all glued to a piece of paper or canvas.

The origins of collage can be traced back hundreds of years, but through the work of artists like Georges Braque and Pablo Picasso, this technique made a dramatic reappearance in the early 20th century.

Tips: Gather a variety of materials to be used for a collage project. Materials can be saved over a period of time in zip lock bags, envelopes, or old jars. Nature walks, family trips, greeting cards, or even a stack of papers ready for recycling can be a great resource for materials. Materials can be torn by hand or cut with scissors and saved based on color or subject. In addition consider other supplies to create a mixed media collage, including paints, stamps, or stencils.

Select a base: A base can be paper, poster board, or canvas. It does not need to be a white background. A page of text with a favorite poem, or a newspaper article could be glued to base as the background for your collage. You can choose a specific shape for your collage. If creating a shape collage, the outline of the shape should be drawn on your base prior to gluing the components. The base can then be trimmed to the proper shape when all of the added materials have been glued. There are many online sites available for creating shape collages if a computer generated collage is of interest!

Every picture tells a story: Stories or narratives have been shared in every culture to entertain and educate, to preserve history and culture, and to instill moral values. Storytelling conveys events in words, images, or sounds and is often improvised. Stories are often embellished each time they are told.

The artist as storyteller: Each artist can use their imagination to create a story based on their collage. Developing the imagination can encourage children to consider new and inventive ideas and contribute to self-confidence.

Digital storytelling: After a story has been created, you may want to consider a digital version. There are many sites available online to help understand the components and techniques of this multi-media form of storytelling. "Digital storytelling is the modern expression of the ancient art of storytelling. Digital stories derive their power by weaving images, music, narrative and voice together, thereby giving deep dimension and vivid color to characters, situations, experiences, and insights."

Leslie Rule, Digital Storytelling Association

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<http://www.gale.cengage.com/pdf/TeachersGuides/BoyandMoon.pdf>

Learn more about the art of Jim Carroll at www.jameschristophercarroll.com