



Green² Troops – Senior Collage Artist

Purpose: Create art that tells a story or expresses an idea using a collage—while keeping materials waste-free, sustainable, and mindful of our planet.

Overall Green² Strategies

- Materials: 100% reused or repurposed—no buying new unless it's absolutely essential.
- Swap with friends, use leftover craft box items, ask for donations of old magazines, packaging, or scrap fabric.
- Adhesives: Choose non-toxic glue or homemade paste (flour + water).
- Backing: Use cardboard from packaging, old folders, or thrifted frames.

Step 1: Explore the Art of Collage

Goal: Learn what collage is and see how artists use it in creative ways.

- Look up online galleries or museum virtual tours—no printed books unless borrowed from a library.
- Visit a local gallery and take pictures instead of picking up brochures.
- Discuss as a troop how collage can be used to tell a story or express an idea, especially in environmental art.

Step 2: Gather Your Materials

Goal: Collect items to use without buying anything new.

- Host a Troop “Scrap Swap”—everyone brings unused craft items, paper, or fabric from home.
- Collect interesting textures from recycling bins: cereal boxes, envelopes with patterns, shipping paper.
- Use digital collage tools for a no-materials-needed option.

Step 3: Experiment With Composition

Goal: Play with how to arrange pieces before committing to glue.

- Use scrap paper to test layouts before making the final piece.
- Photograph layout ideas with your phone rather than printing drafts.
- Consider multi-layered designs that can evolve over time instead of being “finished” in one sitting.

Step 4: Create Your Collage

Goal: Make your final piece while keeping it eco-friendly.

- Use reusable tools (scissors, rulers, cutting mats).
 - Work on top of a reusable cloth or mat to avoid single-use coverings.
 - Use thrifted frames, clipboards, or old canvases as backing.
 - If using digital tools, skip printing unless you'll display it for an event.
-

Step 5: Share and Reflect

Goal: Present your collage to others and share your eco-friendly process.

- Host a “green art gallery” night at your meeting space—invite families digitally.
 - Share photos on troop social media with tips for waste-free art.
 - Donate or gift collages to local senior centers, libraries, or community spaces.
-

At-Home & Family Connection

- Ask family members for old magazines, packaging, or fabric scraps they no longer use.
 - Create a second collage at home with entirely recycled materials from your household.
 - Share your favorite waste-free art hacks with friends or younger Girl Scouts.
-

Waste-Free Wrap-Up

- Reflect as a troop: How did working with reused materials change your art?
- Make a digital photo album of everyone’s work to share instead of printing.
- Pass leftover supplies to another troop, school, or community art program.