

Art
activity

2

WORLD IN A BOX

Get Artty!

TAKE PART WITH ART

GASS ART
EST.1984

Supported by
**Access
Art**

mencap
The voice of
learning disability

Getting started



Get Arty! offers three fantastic activities created by [AccessArt](https://www.accessart.org.uk). This is activity number 2 – World in a box. We hope your pupils enjoy having lots of fun getting creative, collaborating and learning.

We recommend running your Get Arty! assembly before starting the lesson – everything you'll need for this is in your welcome pack and online. Alternatively, the assembly resources and art activity can be used alongside each other during the class.

Learning outcomes and links to the curriculum

The activities we have developed will help your school meet the National Curriculum targets for Art & Design for Key Stage 1 and 2. Get Arty! achieves this in the following ways:

- ✱ Helps children explore new sculptural materials and processes.
- ✱ Enables children to develop their dexterity and fine motor skills.
- ✱ Provides experience in manipulating and transforming materials into artwork.
- ✱ Helps children gain confidence in their ability to express their ideas and make them real, and in being contributors to the world.

Duration of the activity



30 minutes to 2 hours

Introduction to lesson

To begin, we suggest reminding children about the Get Arty! assembly, and kicking off with the following statement: **Whoever you are, however you are different, art is for everyone.**

This guidance has been designed for you, the teacher - please use it to help you deliver the lesson.

World in a box activity

Children love working on a miniature scale, it allows them to create worlds which they can control and oversee. AccessArt and Mencap have devised this mini 'world in a box' activity which gives children plenty of creative freedom, resulting in fantastic autobiographical artwork.



1. As a class, introduce the concept of the children owning their world in a box – it will be theirs and it can contain anything they like. The more the children feel a sense of ownership from the beginning, the greater their creative freedom of expression.

You will need:

- ☐ Blank craft matchboxes. You can get these in two sizes; we went for the larger size (approximately 110mm, 60mm x 20mm).
- ☐ Plain white card or paper
- ☐ Coloured card
- ☐ Paper for collage (e.g. old magazines, books, postcards, leaflets)
- ☐ Selection of fabric, wool, string etc
- ☐ Selection of small found objects (e.g. matchsticks, cocktail sticks, beads)
- ☐ Glue sticks
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Pens and pencils
- ☐ Printer (optional)



2. Children might choose to create a world which:
- depicts their bedroom – real or fantasy
 - shares a hobby or pastime, or something they really like – pets, objects, places
 - depicts a dream world they would love to inhabit
 - shares a happy memory – a holiday, a person, a visit
 - depicts friends or family.



3. Don't worry about getting the children to design their boxes on paper. Instead, let them start making straight away, using the materials available. To help this process, make sure you have collected together a wide variety of materials for them to use to collage and create. The greater the variety of materials the more the children can make thoughtful

decisions about which materials they use and how they use them.

- Make sure the children understand they can take risks in their creativity. If they don't like something they've done, they can always redo it!
- Start with either the matchbox cover, or the interior – it doesn't matter.



6. Ask the children to think about the following:

- a. How the matchbox cover might be used. Might you cut a hole in it (with help) to give a glimpse of what's inside? Or might you decorate it with imagery or words (printed or handwritten).
- b. What will be revealed inside the box? Use collage or drawing to decorate, and perhaps paint the sides. Use collage items and small objects to add 3D detail. Create fold-out panels or small booklets which you can glue in.
- c. How the finished world in a box might be displayed; they should make for a very rich and exciting display.



7. Most of all, have fun and celebrate the unique and diverse personalities of everyone in the class!





Activity complete!



Access more resources at www.mencap.org.uk/getarty

About AccessArt

This Get Arty! activity was developed by our partner AccessArt.

AccessArt aims to inspire and enable high quality visual arts teaching and learning through an evolving collection of unique teaching and learning resources.

- ✱ If you are a teacher or educator, you'll find their collection of resources will help you plan art lessons and provide ideas, inspiration and guidance.
- ✱ If you're an artist working in education, a facilitator or a museum and gallery education officer, you'll find the resources will help inspire and develop your practice.
- ✱ And if you are a creative practitioner, we're sure the ideas will help inspire your own practice.

AccessArt resources are based upon over 20 years of educational practice and we believe by sharing them we can all work together to inspire the next generation of creative individuals.

Find more resources to help explore creativity in the classroom at www.accessart.org.uk



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