

# Artists for Kids Collagraph Kit: Textured Landscape Inspired by Ted Harrison

## Grades K-3

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### Activity:

Students will create a 9" x 6" collagraph print using various textured materials glued to cardstock. They will be introduced to Ted Harrison's artwork and draw inspiration from his compositions. Students will learn what a collagraph is, how to create a collagraph block and how to print it. They will consider line, shape, texture, balance, and variety.

## Collagraphy

**Collagraphy** is a printmaking process in which materials are glued or sealed to a rigid surface to create a plate. Once inked, the plate becomes a tool for imprinting the design onto paper or another medium. The resulting print is termed a **collagraph**.

### Students will learn the following skills:

- cutting and gluing techniques
- assembling a relief design with textured collage materials
- assembling shapes and lines to represent a landscape
- using hand printing techniques to reproduce a collagraph print on paper
- optionally using a hand printing press to reproduce prints on paper

### Materials Provided in Collagraph Printmaking Kit:

- 6 brayers of various width
- 4 inking plexi plates
- 2 palette knives
- 4 paint scrapers (2 plastic, 2 metal)
- 4 Baren's
- 2 hand presses with felt and acrylic printing blankets
- Soap, 2 sponges, and 2 squirt bottles
- Laminated lesson plan

## Materials Provided by Teacher/School:

- Sharpie markers & pencils
- Washable white glue
- Glue sticks
- Printer paper
- Coloured paper- the more vibrant the better
- Various textured materials of **similar thickness**: burlap, bubble wrap, textured mesh ribbons, corrugated cardboard, wooden stir sticks, sheets of foam, sheets of felt
- Optional: aprons or smocks
- Optional: 2-4 cookie sheets to put under printing stations

**North Vancouver Opus Store : 604-904-0447**

### Ink (options available from Opus):

- Black Akua Intaglio Ink – 8 oz: \$26.90 with Educator's Discount (**Note: This type of ink will remain wet and tacky for an entire printmaking session and can still be washed with soap and water**)
- Black Speedball Water-Soluble Block Printing Ink – 16oz: \$33.66 with Educator's Discount; 147ml: \$17.64 with Educator's Discount (**Note: This type of ink will dry quickly and will need to be dispensed more frequently. Speedball Ink Retarder will help the ink to dry more slowly**)
- Speedball Ink Retarder – 237ml: \$17.80 with Educator's Discount

## Inquiry Questions:

- How can we represent a landscape using the following elements and principles of art and design: shape, line, texture, balance, and variety?
- How can we draw on inspiration from another artist to create our own unique artwork?

## Big Ideas:

- People connect to others and share ideas through the arts. (**Arts Education 1**)
- Creative experiences involve an interplay between exploration, inquiry, and purposeful choice. (**Arts Education 3**)
- Inquiry through the arts creates opportunities for risk taking. (**Arts Education 2**)

## First Peoples Principles of Learning

- Learning involves patience and time.

## Curricular Competencies: What students will DO

Students will be able to use the following creative process(es):

- Explore elements, processes, materials, movements, technologies, tools, and techniques of the arts. (**Arts Education**)
- Develop and refine technical skills required to create a collagraph printing block and reproduce a print through the printmaking process. (**Arts Education**)

## Concepts and Content: What students will KNOW

Students will know the following concepts and content:

- Elements and principles of art and design including shape, line, texture, balance, and variety. (**Arts Education**)
- Processes, materials, and techniques needed to create a collagraph print. (**Arts Education**)

## Core Competencies (suggested questions for reflection)

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- **COMMUNICATION:** What shapes, textures, and lines did you use in your collagraph print to communicate your inspiration from Ted Harrison?
- **THINKING:** What can we learn from other artists?
- **PERSONAL AND SOCIAL:** What differences and similarities did you observe between the collagraph prints that you and your classmates created?

## Suggested Descriptive Feedback

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- Tyson has designed a collagraph print considering the elements of line, space, balance, repetition, unity, and variety.
- Tyson has used a variety of textures and shapes to create a collagraph print. He has refined technical skills required to create collagraph print, inking a collagraph plate and using the hand printing press.
- Tyson demonstrates personal responsibility when creating art, contributing to a safe learning environment. Tyson actively contributes to cleaning up art materials and workspace.

## Displaying Student Artwork

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The following are tips for displaying the finished collagraph prints at your school:

- Have students work together to arrange their finished artworks, creating a collaborative class composition.
- Include a title and description with the display of finished artwork. For example:

**Textured Landscape Collagraph Prints by Div.2**  
**Created with the Artists for Kids Collagraph Print Kit**

We learned about artist Ted Harrison.  
We learned what a collagraph is, how to create a collagraph block,  
and how to print it.



## Suggested Summative Assessment Rubric for Garbage Press Monoprints

Teachers are invited to adapt and edit the following evaluation rubric:

	Emerging	Developing	Proficient	Extending
<b>Composition:</b>  Student has thoughtfully planned and considered the composition of their textured landscape collagraph plate, thinking about using the elements of line, shape, texture, balance, and variety.	Minimal understanding of art elements	Inconsistent application of art elements	Purposeful use of most art elements	Thoughtful and creative integration of all art elements
<b>Printmaking Tools and Techniques:</b>  Student has followed teacher directed processes in creating a collagraph printing block and reproducing a print using hand printing techniques or using a hand printing press.	Struggles with basic printmaking processes	Demonstrates basic printmaking skills with some errors	Successfully creates a collagraph print with minimal guidance	Demonstrates advanced printmaking techniques with confidence
<b>Studio Work Habits:</b>  Student demonstrates personal and collective responsibility when creating art, contributing to a safe learning environment. Student actively contributes to cleaning up art materials and work space.	Rarely follows instructions. Minimal effort in cleaning and organizing. Minimal interaction with peers.	Occasionally follows classroom art procedures. Partial participation in cleanup. Occasional positive communication with peers.	Consistently follows directions. Actively contributes to cleaning workspace. Consistently supportive of classmates.	Exceeds expectations in following art room procedures. Takes leadership in maintaining a clean and organized workspace. Demonstrates exceptional teamwork and peer support.



# Step-by-Step Lesson Guide

## INTRODUCE THE ARTWORK OF TED HARRISON:

- Project images of Ted Harrison's artwork (see end of document).
- Ask the class the following questions:
  - Describe the lines that Ted Harrison has used in this artwork.
  - Describe the colours that Ted Harrison has used.
  - How has Ted Harrison used shapes and layers to represent a landscape?
- Share the following information about the artist with students:



Ted Harrison, *Paradise Visions*, 2010, twenty six colour serigraph, 22.5" x 30"

which drew inspiration from the landscapes and culture of the Yukon. His artwork is characterized by bold, flowing lines and vivid, non-traditional colors, creating whimsical and dreamlike interpretations of northern scenery. Harrison often used simple shapes, layers, and playful compositions to depict mountains, rivers, and skies, blending abstraction with representational art. His work conveys a sense of movement and energy, capturing the spirit of the North. Harrison's style is instantly recognizable and has made a lasting impact on Canadian art.

## INTRO PROJECT:

- Students will use cardstock/cereal box cardboard and other textured materials to create a collagraph print inspired by Ted Harrison's landscape artworks.

## MAKING THE COLLAGRAPH BLOCK (Day 1):

- Distribute to each student a 9" X 6" piece of cardstock, white glue, and a sharpie marker
- Demonstrate how to draw 5 or 6 sections on the cardboard with the sharpie, encourage them to add a circle for the moon or sun like Ted Harrison often did. Keep the sections simple or they will not show up in the final print (no people or buildings)
- Once students have drawn their lines, check them to make sure they are simple and well-spaced out
- Present the textured materials and discuss the best placement. Two similar textures should not be placed next to each other
- Allow students to select a few materials and bring them to their desks
- Have students glue a different textured material down in each of their drawn sections



- Make sure students use a lot of glue on the material AND the cardboard, instruct them to press them down for 30 seconds
- Double check students glue work



#### PRINTING THE COLLAGRAPH (Day 2):

- Set up two inking stations with inking plates, palette knives, ink, retarder and newsprint to protect the table
- Distribute two pieces of plain white copy paper (8.5"x11") and glue sticks to each student Show students how to tear and glue two pieces of coloured paper to their two white papers for their background, have them leave more white paper than coloured paper



- Demonstrate the printing process before students begin preparing their backgrounds
- Call students up two at a time to print as they finish their background paper, you may want to have a glue stick on hand in case any of the textured pieces come loose





- Use about  $\frac{1}{2}$  a teaspoon of ink on the plexi plate. If using Speedball Water-Soluble Block Printing Ink mix a small dab of ink retarder (less than  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the ink amount) in with the ink to keep the ink from drying out. Use the pallet knife to mix ink and retarder on inking plate.



- Use brayer to spread ink evenly over the inking plate, concentrate the ink in the middle of the plate so that it does not dry out.
- Place collagraph block on a piece of scrap paper or newspaper



- Roll ink onto collagraph block. Apply ink in a north-south and diagonal direction to evenly ink the block.
- **If using baren to print:** place collagraph block face up on some clean newsprint and place the background paper face down on the block so the block is in the center of the paper. Use the baren to



apply pressure to every inch of the block. Rub in circular motions from one corner to the other to ensure no spots are missed.

- **If using the hand printing press:** place scrap paper on lower bed of the press. Place collagraph block with inked side facing up. Center background paper, face down, on top of inked collagraph block. Place a piece of scrap paper or paper towel on top of the paper. First place the blue felt, and then the white felt on top.
- Close the hand press and press strongly down on the handle. **Note:** do not use the press if using bubble wrap as a textured material.



#### CLEANING UP:

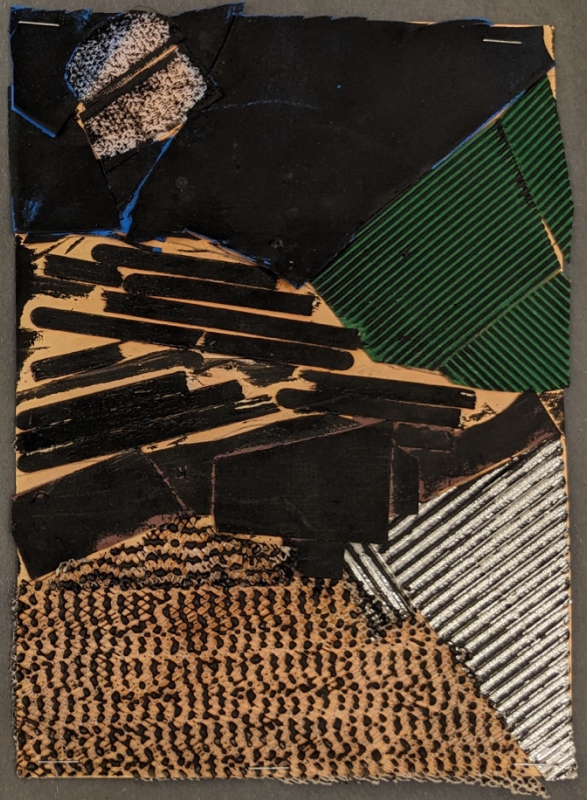
- **\*Please note that for clean-up the Akua ink is water soluble when you use both SOAP and water\***
- Thoroughly wash the ink from the plexi plates and brayers using soap and water.











Isaiah





Ted Harrison, *Paradise Visions*, 2010, twenty six colour serigraph, 22.5" x 30"



Ted Harrison, *Whale Frolic*, 1994, colour serigraph, 24" x 18"