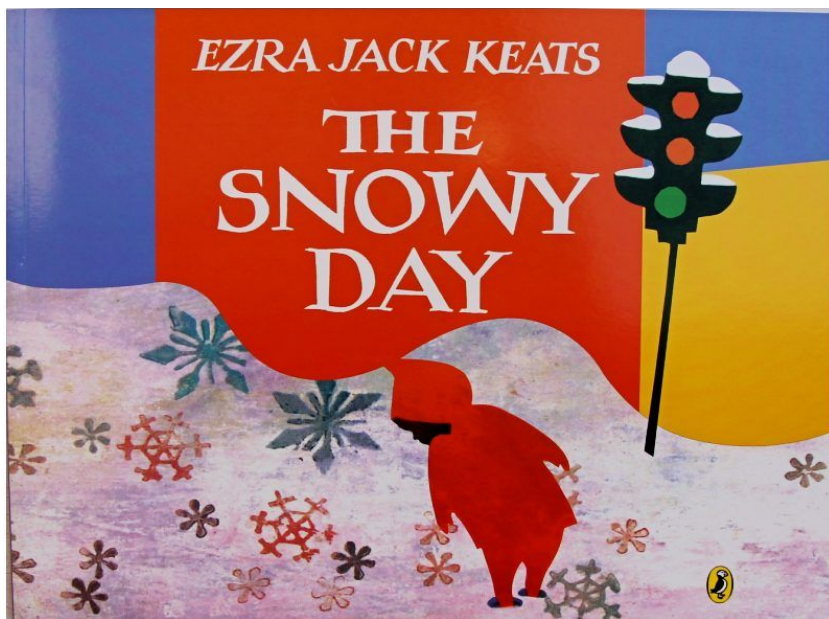


Ezra Jack Keats And The Art of Collage

**Mixed Media composition inspired by the art of
*The Snowy Day***



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**Please make sure you reserve a bin by signing up
on the calendar.**

Only 2 groups per hour and 15 minute segment.

- ❖ This month we will focus on the artist and author Ezra Jack Keats, known for his use of collage techniques and inclusive characters and settings.
- ❖ Keats used techniques that he had never tried before to create the artwork for *The Snowy Day*. Collage of cutouts using patterned paper, fabric and oilcloth, homemade snowflake stamps, and spattering of India ink from a toothbrush are what give the art in the book its unique style.

**“I was like a child playing,” he wrote of the
creation process. “I was in a world with no
rules.”**

- ❖ Our artwork will be a two dimensional snow person cut out and ripped paper technique for the design.
- ❖ We will explore the terms medium and mixed media
- ❖ This lesson will incorporate the book *The Snowy Day*

Let's get ready to create a collage!

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Supplies Needed:

1. For Kindergarten and 1st Grades
 - a. Pre cut out snow people from paper
2. For 2nd and 3rd Grades
 - a. Traced outlines of snow people on paper or templates and paper for students to trace and cut themselves
3. For 3rd, 4th, and 5th Grade
 - a. Cardboard templates and paper for students to trace and cut themselves
4. Yarn for hair
5. Woolen ends for scarves
6. Colors of construction paper
7. Plastic cups to portion out special elements (optional)
8. Special elements for media: foam shapes, snowflakes, sequins (optional)
9. Markers
10. School glue
11. Book *The Snowy Day*

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Instructions:

1. Depending on the grade you are teaching, please prepare the snow people ahead of time, so as to maximize classroom time for each level. Gauge your classroom. If you think you will not have enough time for the tracing or cutting step for your particular class, feel free to prepare this ahead of time. Snow people should be traced and cut before class for grades K, 1, and 2.
2. Read students the book: *The Snowy Day*.
 - a. After reading the book, show students the illustrations and explain that they are not paintings or drawings but layered papers, fabrics, and oilcloth along with prints from stamps and splatters of ink that were then photographed and printed.
 - b. Explain to the class that a **medium** are the materials we use to make art (ie paint, pencils, water bottles). The plural form of medium is **media**. When we use more than one type of medium at a time to create a work of art, for instance we will use markers; paper; yarn; and embellishments, it is considered **mixed media**.
3. Make sure the student label names are on the back side of each person.
4. Students should then begin creating their own version of a person bundled up to play in the snow. We would like students to rip the paper rather than cut in order to create new and varied textures for their completed person. After creating and gluing into place a coat, pants, boots, hair from yarn, and a scarf from the fabric ends, they can choose up to three foam embellishments for their person. Make sure they create a face for their person using markers.

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Tips and Hints:

1. For younger classes, make sure to have all snow people prepared to ensure you have enough time. There are many templates, but please make sure to leave some here, so classes can use them in the classroom.
2. Use small plastic dishes for students to pick out embellishments and take them back to their work space. Three items per student please to ensure there are enough for everyone.
3. The woolen factory ends are intended for scarves and the yarn for hair, but it is art, and students are able to be creative with the scope of the project and media.
4. Don't be afraid to have one facilitator complete the project step by step with the students using the teacher's overhead projector. The kids really enjoy having an adult work at the same time as them. Also, don't be self conscious of your art, this is all about enjoying and sharing art, not perfect technique.
5. Let anxious students know this is a creative process and for enjoyment. It does not have to be or look perfect.