

**Kay Adamson**

One day I found several boxes full of small colorful scraps of fabric. I decided to do what I normally do when I have scraps of construction paper left over . . . use it to make a collage!

I quickly started thinking of ways to make this work and ended up at the fabric store. I found a double-stick fusible web material, which I could use for the “glue.” I was about to begin a fifth-grade lesson on landscapes and decided to combine the two and do a fabric collage landscape.

As we began the lesson, students had the opportunity to view and discuss a PowerPoint presentation where



# Scraps of Fabric Landscape Collage

several different types of landscapes were shown including drawings, paintings, and photography.

## Focus on van Gogh

My fifth graders had already learned about foreground, middle ground, background, overlapping techniques, depth, and perspective, but this was a great way to review.

We narrowed our focus on van Gogh’s painting, *Field at Arles* and several pieces of photography.

We spent time comparing and contrasting the two different styles of art and then began a quick landscape drawing. Color was added keeping in mind that some color choices may have to change depending on fabric choices.

## Using Cardboard as a Base

Each student needed a strong backing board that would support the fabric. I saved the cardboard inserts from construction paper and they worked great. Students covered the entire

board with a solid background color of fabric. Each student wrapped the fabric tightly around the cardboard with the large piece of fabric and taped the edges on the back.

## Adding Details

Next came the fun! I had prepared the scraps of fabric by washing and separating them into groups of color. At this point, students chose several colors of fabric and placed them on the double-stick fusible web material. Using their

drawings as reference, students cut the fabric into shapes that matched their drawings and began arranging the collage pieces on the backgrounds.

Students started at the top of the artwork (most were working on the sky at this point) and worked down to the foreground, continuing to cut and layer their fabric pieces. If a student did not like where the fabric was placed, it was easily moved and repositioned. Once the landscape collage was complete, students fused the fab-

ric scraps by ironing. Some students were very detailed in their collage and others were more abstract, but all students enjoyed this lesson! 🎨

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## NATIONAL STANDARD

*Students employ organizational structures and analyze what makes them effective or not effective in the communication of ideas.*

## WEB LINK

[www.warmcompany.com/saspage.html](http://www.warmcompany.com/saspage.html)

## Materials/Resources

- drawing paper, pencils, crayons
- cardboard backing board
- large pieces of solid color fabric for background
- scraps of fabric
- fusible web material
- scissors
- iron