

Project: Crisp Street Market Textile Hangings

School:

Mayflower Primary School

Project Artist:

Mia Harris

Images:



When:

Spring 2016

Participants:

300 children from across the school

Activity:

Artist Mia Harris worked with children from across the school to create a series of textile hangings for the lower dinner hall, inspired by the food stalls in Crisp Street Market. The aim of the project was for children to work collaboratively and for the hangings to grow and change as they progressed through the different year groups.

Mia introduced each group to the significance of textiles historically and within contemporary art, and each phase took on a different stage of the making process, such as feltmaking, cutting shapes and assembling and adding detail and embroidery. The completed textile hangings were then installed in A1 box frames and the school printed and mounted the photographs to hang alongside the textile pieces.

Mia and some of the children who participated in the project attended a celebration event to celebrate all of the projects delivered within the consortium of 10 schools in Poplar, which included an exhibition of some of their work and a series of skills sharing workshops.

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Outcomes and Impact:

- Children developed an understanding of textiles within both a historic and contemporary art context
- Children developed practical skills in screen printing, sewing, feltmaking and assembling artwork
- Through working towards a permanent artwork, children were able to take pride in, and ownership of, the school environment
- Children are proud of the artwork they produced and are more respectful of the hall space
- Through passing on their artwork to the next class group, children learnt how collaborating can improve, develop and add ideas to make a better final outcome
- Children enjoyed and were inspired by working with a professional artist

Outputs:

- 1 permanent display of textiles for the school hall
- 20 artist led sessions in school

Testimonies:

"The teachers are now more confident to deliver art using a wider range of materials. The school is now developing art projects over longer time scales where children build up to producing a final product. Some of the final pieces are now collaborative, rather than individual" Ben, Art Co-ordinator

"It was a very productive and enjoyable project for the children. Many of them had good sewing skills and were able to adapt their skills to a new way of sewing. The children who did printmaking and feltmaking produced a large quantity of high quality work. The older children made some great designs and brought the variety of work together by layering work and produced great work" Mia, Lead Artist

"The children developed a wide range of techniques and used colour, pattern, texture, shape, space and line effectively. This contributes towards them achieving the aims of the national curriculum in art and design for KS1 & 2" Ben, Art Co-ordinator

"[The children] respected other students' work and adapted well to change and development of the pieces and gained good understanding of working as a team as the entire school." Mia, Lead Artist

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