

How to... DRAW! a memory

You will need:

- Paper to paint onto
- Paint of your choice - this can be acrylics or poster paints if that's what you've got
- Brushes and water to clean them
- Something to protect the surface you are using to paint on

Exercise:

Step 1

Choose a photo or think of a moment from the past you would like to recreate. Once you have this, get all your paints and paint brushes ready and place the image somewhere that is easily visible.

Step 2

Looking at your photo, take a moment to think about it as if it was several blocks of colours, try squinting your eyes until all you can see are fuzzy outlines. That's the sort of effect we're going to create.

Take another look at the image and imagine it now as a series of shapes and colours.

Step 3

Now take your brush and start making shapes on the page. Rather than using the end of your brush like a pencil you could experiment with making shapes by pressing it into the paper or using the side of the brush to make wider shapes.

Don't aim for accuracy or exact 'photo-realism'. We're aiming for the opposite of that; embrace the blurred edges. Keep thinking back to looking at the photo with squinted eyes. Keep asking what forms, shapes, lines and colours can you see?

Extra Activity

Often memories can blur two things into one. Why not try taking two separate photos and combine them into one image? What new memories do you think you could make? Or maybe you'll make a brand-new memory.

You could even use someone else's photo and combine it with your own.