

He Toi Tairongo Sensory Collage



Teaching Resource

Lesson 3 of 6

Year: 4-8

Class time: 60+ mins

Prep time: 5-10 mins

What teachers need to know

This is Lesson 3 from a series of six lessons about connecting with our environment and people. See [Te Hono Atua – Overview](#).

The purpose of this activity is for ākonga (students) to develop an awareness of their surroundings and to use their senses. They will go on a walk either around the streets near kura (school) or on school grounds, observing what they can see and hear along the way. They will create an artwork in response to this experience. The artwork can be done as individuals or as a collective artwork.

For inspiration, here are some examples of collaborative artwork:

- Briargrove Elementary Art Page – [The Wetlands! A Collaborative Recycled Mural](#).
- Resene Mural Masterpieces winners 2003 – [many examples of murals and ideas for collective art works](#).

Teacher preparation:

- Read through this resource.
- Prepare art materials for collage.
- RAMS (or other form needed) for walk out of school grounds.



5-10 mins

Learning intentions – students will:

- Portray their feelings and experiences about their outdoor environment through a piece of visual art.

Success criteria – students can:

- Describe what their sensory collage is portraying.



New Zealand Curriculum Achievement Objectives:

The Arts and Visual Arts:

Level 2 – Communicating and interpreting – Share the ideas, feelings, and stories communicated by their own and others' objects and images.

Level 3 – Communicating and interpreting – Describe the ideas that their own and others' objects and images communicate.

Level 4 – Communicating and interpreting – Explore and describe ways in which meanings can be communicated and interpreted in their own and others' work.

Education for sustainability concepts:

- Connectedness.
- See [Education for sustainability](#).



Learning experience



60+ mins

1. As a class go for a walk around the streets near your kura. Walk along pathways that lead to your school gates. If this is not possible, ask each ākonga to think about their own journey to kura.
2. Walk and stop in some places along the way. Use your senses one at a time to experience the different environments you come across.
 - *What do you see?*
 - *What do you hear?*
 - *What do you smell?*
 - *What do you taste?*
 - *What do you feel?*
3. Make sketches, take photos, collect objects in preparation for developing the sensory collage.
4. Choose your media and whether the artwork will be collaborative or individual:
 - Photos
 - Collage
 - Drawing or painting
 - Mixed media
 - Ephemeral art, chalk, natural materials
5. Decide on a possible theme such as nature, emotions, colours, safe spots, dangers, or the sequence of a journey to kura.
6. Create your sensory collage.
7. Display the sensory collage in a prominent place like the school office or hall and share with whānau at home through digital media.



Further activities, resources, and links

- Next lesson: [Whakaahua hāereere ki te kura. Travelling to school montage](#) (Lesson 4 of 6).
- See the list of [pukapuka \(picture books\)](#) and [links to pūrakau \(stories\)](#) about atua (Māori gods) that you could use in your classroom.