



## TE URU HOLIDAY ACTIVITY: *Imagination Station*

### **Mythical creature with abstract background**

Paint, draw and collage your very own mixed media abstract painting with a mythical creature.

*Suitable for pre-schoolers (with assistance) through to age 14*

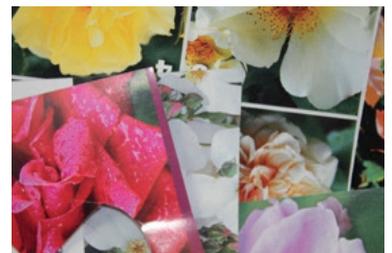
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Te Uru Education Team

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## Mythical creature with abstract background

### YOU WILL NEED:

- Acrylic paints: blue, red, white and yellow
- Watercolour paints, pencils or crayons (we used watercolour crayons, if you don't have watercolours use diluted acrylic paint)
- Paint palette or large plastic lid for mixing paints
- Paint brushes
- Jar with water
- For the background: A3 card, heavy paper or cardboard box panel
- For mythical creature: A4 card, heavy paper or cardboard box panel
- Coloured pencils and or felt tips
- Glue stick or PVA glue
- Scissors
- Clean kitchen sponge (thick, for cutting up)
- Newspaper for covering your work surface
- Collage pieces: use old magazines, catalogues, fabric, stickers or newspapers to cut into collage pieces (we used an old gardening magazine)



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### GUIDE

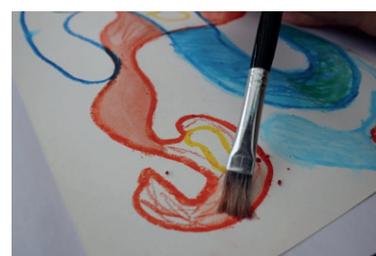
Enjoy this activity over one or a few sessions. The approximate activity time is 2.5–3 hours. Don't forget to take a break! Get inspired by looking at pictures of creatures found in myths, legends and folk-tales (maybe read a story) and relax into creating an abstract background.

**First, create a safe space to work in, perhaps put some newspaper down.**

1. **DRAW** outlines of abstract shapes on A3 card using your watercolour pencils, crayons or paints (hint: close your eyes, relax and let your hand guide you)
2. **BE BRAVE** and have fun overlapping the shapes, use up all of the area of the A3 card
3. **SHADE** and colour in the outlines with watercolour pencils, crayons or paints
4. **PAINT** and fill in the coloured in spaces using a paintbrush and water
5. **CUT** your sponge into 4 squares and 4 triangles
6. **MIX** acrylic paints on a palette or lid for your sponge printing. Make any combination of colours-see a colour wheel for ideas
7. **CHOOSE** a sponge then paint it with a paintbrush, giving it a good even coat of paint
8. **PRESS** your painted sponge down gently on your watercolour background and peel it back. Make as many sponge prints as you like
9. **LET** your background dry

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10. **DRAW** a mythical creature with pencil on the A4 card (we used a combination of a lion, griffin, and a dragon as our inspiration)
11. **USE** a felt tip to outline your drawing to make it stand out
12. **COLOUR IN** the drawing using felt tips or coloured pencils. Add details, scales, spikes, pointed ears etc
13. **THINK** about where you'd like to place your collage pieces on your drawing. Lay the pieces on the drawing to see what it will look like (we chose to make collaged wings)
14. **GLUE** all of the collage pieces onto the drawing
15. **LOOK** at your drawing. Do you want to add anything or are you finished?
16. **CUT OUT** your mythical creature, slowly and carefully. Ask for help if you need to
17. **GLUE** your mythical creature onto your abstract background
18. **STAND BACK** and look at your creation. Well done!
19. **UPLOAD** your creation to social media (ask your parents) and be sure to tag us in: @teurugallery or #teuru
20. **SEND** us a photo: info@teuru.org.nz

**Well done on completing your artwork!**

**We'll be uploading new activities regularly so be sure to keep an eye on our LEARN page for updates.**

[teuru.org.nz](http://teuru.org.nz)

