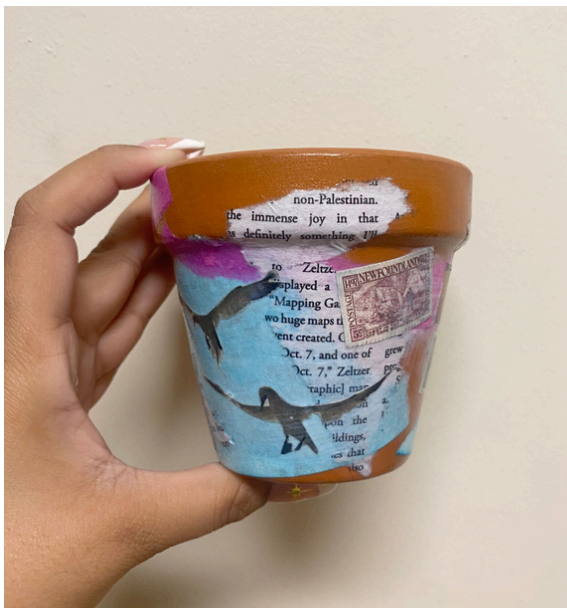


# POTTED PLANT COLLAGE

## INTRODUCTION

Decorate a terracotta pot with cut-outs from magazines, newspapers, or other printed images to create three-dimensional collages. Then, plant seeds in the pot.

This lesson is inspired by the themes and materials explored in the exhibition *Flesh of the Forest*.



*Example of potted plant collage.*

## MATERIALS

- Terracotta pot
- Potting soil
- Seeds
- Paper to collage with, of your choice
- Container for water
- Mod Podge
- Foam brush
- Scissors
- Mod Podge Clay Pot Sealer or acrylic fixative

## VOCABULARY

**Native plant:** a plant belonging to a species which is indigenous to a specific region.

**Invasive plant:** a plant that enters a new region and monopolizes resources such as light, nutrients and water, to the detriment of other species.

**Non-invasive plant:** a plant that may not be native, but causes no harm to other species in the habitat.

**Collage:** An artistic technique that combines different materials and forms to create a new whole, usually two-dimensional & using paper.

**Water-resistant:** In this case, making the collage water-resistant means it will not be easily damaged by water.

## STEPS

- 1** Gather materials to collage with. This can be any paper you wish to repurpose, but don't use anything thicker than printer paper: newspapers, magazines, sheet music, and old drawings are all great options.
- 2** Decide if you would like to plant a native plant or a non-invasive plant - there is no wrong answer! Then, obtain the seeds for this plant.
- 3** Cut out images, words, and textures that inspire you from the collage materials you collected.
- 4** Now you will glue your cut-outs to your terracotta pot, one at a time. Use the foam brush to apply a layer of mod podge in the area you will be placing your cut-out. Then, dip your cut out in water, place it onto the pot, and smooth it down with a foam brush to get rid of wrinkles. Apply another layer of mod podge on top.
- 5** Repeat step 4 for all of your cut-outs. When you have collaged your entire pot, Cover the entire surface with another layer of mod podge.
- 6** In an outdoor area, spray the inside and outside of your pot with Mod Podge Clay Pot Sealer, or an acrylic fixative. This will help your collage, be **water-resistant**.
- 7** Now you are ready to plant your seeds. Research the planting needs of the specific seeds you are working with. The next step is generalized and may need variation.
- 8** Fill the pot a little over halfway with soil. Sprinkle your seeds into the soil, then add another layer of soil on top.

*Take a photo of your projects and send them  
ffleming@oxy.edu or tag us @oxyarts*