

Talking about our Generation

IGNITE
IMAGINATIONS

Sparks

AGE BETTER IN SHEFFIELD

Sparks is a project funded by Age Better in Sheffield, delivered by Ignite Imaginations, that connects people aged over 50 with arts and culture in Sheffield.

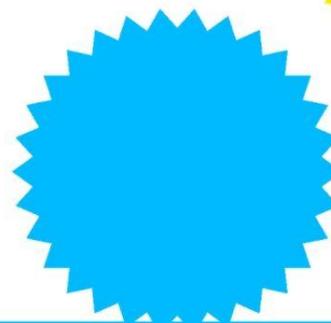
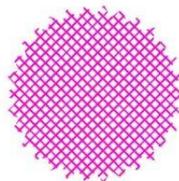
Talking about our Generation is a project co-designed and co-produced with Sheffield's U3A. It is a grassroots celebration of folk, peace and people power from the sixties to the present day; online at first and then in person when mass gatherings are back in action. These initial online workshops aim to bring people together to map and explore true stories and memories of culture in our city, with the opportunity for people to showcase the art they create as part of a virtual exhibition. This project will culminate in a festival featuring the live exhibition, performances and workshops from musicians that explore the traditions of protest music, as well as storytelling and discussions of creativity across all ages- of standing together and uniting to celebrate people power.

Part 1 - Make your own Memory Collage



You could use the following materials as I did in the video, or find your own creative alternatives

- a piece of card for the background
- some old magazines & a newspaper
- a glue stick
- scissors
- a separate piece of paper to write on as well
- a pencil or pen – any colour will do (I used a black rollerball pen from my local supermarket)
- some newspaper to glue on



Step-by-Step Instructions

1. *Gather your materials and make yourself comfortable - why not treat yourself to a cuppa as well!*

2. Choose a cultural memory - Was it an indoor or outdoor event? Describe the venue (eg. dark, smoky, cavernous, screaming fans) Did you save your wages each month to be able to go? Wait in line for hours to get the tickets? Who did you go with? How did the experience live up to your expectations?

For my two examples I have chosen...a visit to the library and a visit to theatre production Stomp.

3. Take time to think about how your memory makes you feel. Look through old magazines to find some coloured backgrounds or images that represent your feelings. Cut them out roughly and put them to one side, you can always cut them smaller later.

Look through old magazines to find some coloured backgrounds or images that represent your feelings. Cut them out roughly and put to one side. You can always cut them smaller later.

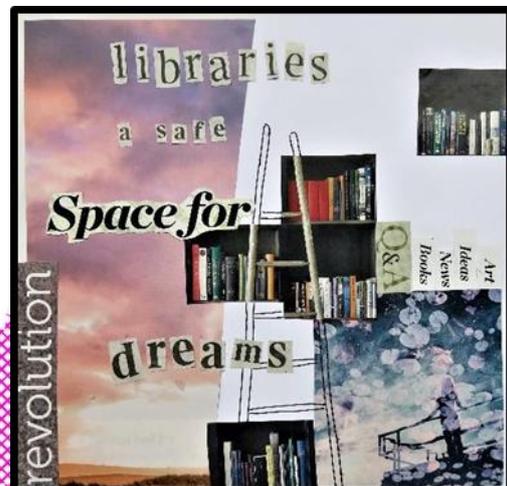
I used clouds to represent my feelings.

4. Arrange your coloured magazine papers on the background card, cutting or tearing them to fit your design.

You might need to move them around or cut them smaller before you are happy with the final arrangement. You can leave spaces so the colour of the background card shows through or not, but **do not stick anything down just yet.**

This is how I arranged mine...

5. Now take any other piece of paper- the back of an old envelope will do. Write down some key words or phrases that describe the event/place/experience you had.



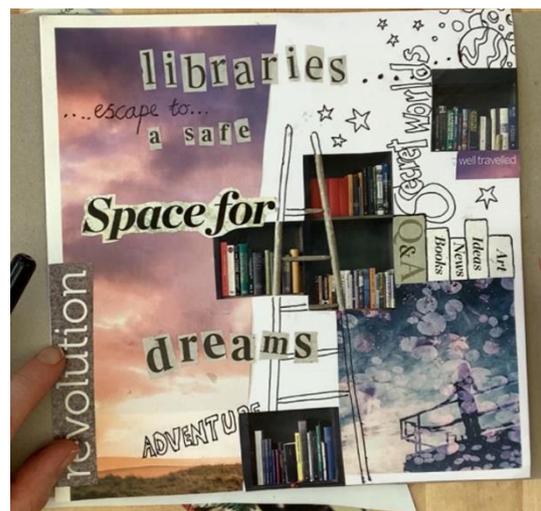
6. Choose some of the phrases or words you have written down, to look for, and cut out from magazines & newspapers. Arrange these over the top of the design. You may find that other words or phrases “jump out at you” that are just right to describe the experience you are remembering.

7. Once happy with your design, first glue the background down and then the words over the top. It may be helpful to take a quick photo on your mobile phone if you have one, so you can remember where everything goes!

8. With your pen, write or draw other words or phrases over the top of your design.

9. Finish with patterns or shapes drawn over the top, to connect the design

These are my finished designs:



Next Steps:

Please take a photograph of your finished design and sent it to sparks@igniteimagnations.org.uk for your art to feature in the Talking About Our Generation virtual exhibition.

