

## Summer Activity: Shoebox Project

Bring your completed project to school on **Friday 4th September**.

### Introduction

This activity is inspired by Joseph Cornell, who was an artist in New York. He collected various objects from around his home as well as from junk shops, the water's edge and parks. He arranged the objects and later used them to create boxed pieces of sculpture. Joseph Cornell has been recognised as a very important artist.

- What can you see in this example?
- What objects and images have been used in Cornell's work?
- Where do you think the objects came from?



### The Task

Your task is to design your own 'shoebox' piece of art, which you will take with you to Watford Grammar School for Girls on your second day, **Friday 4th September**, and present your box to your form. This way, you can learn lots of new information about each other.

The theme of your box will be 'looking back and looking forwards.' Focus on using items that represent the following:

#### Looking back at year 6

- What is important to you?
- What have you done really well?
- What is your favourite memory?
- What have you done really well?

#### Moving forwards

- What are you looking forward to?
- What are your strengths?
- What's important to you in life?
- What makes you special?

### Collecting Your Objects

1. First, get your shoebox. Don't throw away the lid!
2. Choose a background – e.g. wrapping paper, an old map, a page from a magazine
3. Gather items to tell your story – e.g. passport photo, puzzle pieces, scrabble letters, clippings from newspapers
4. Arrange and secure your items
5. Don't bring anything to put in your box, which is really precious.

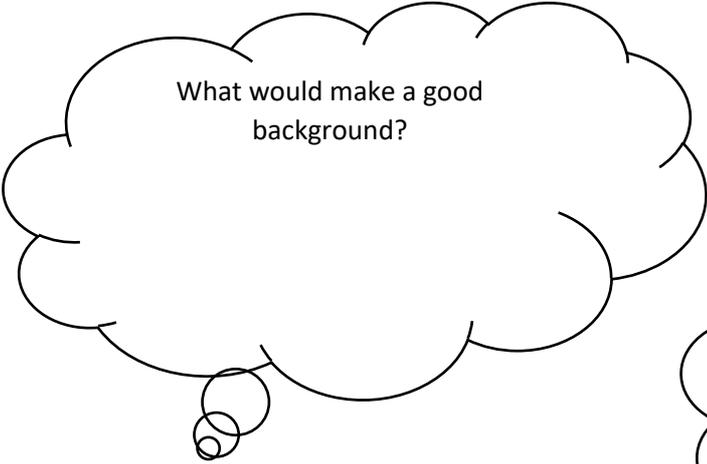
## Equipment List

Here are some suggestions for equipment. You can use any equipment you think will be helpful for you.

- Plasticine
- Card
- Magazines
- Photos
- String
- Wallpaper
- Fabric off cuts
- Pipe cleaners
- Newspaper
- Glue
- Scissors
- Marker pens and paint.

## Thinking and Planning

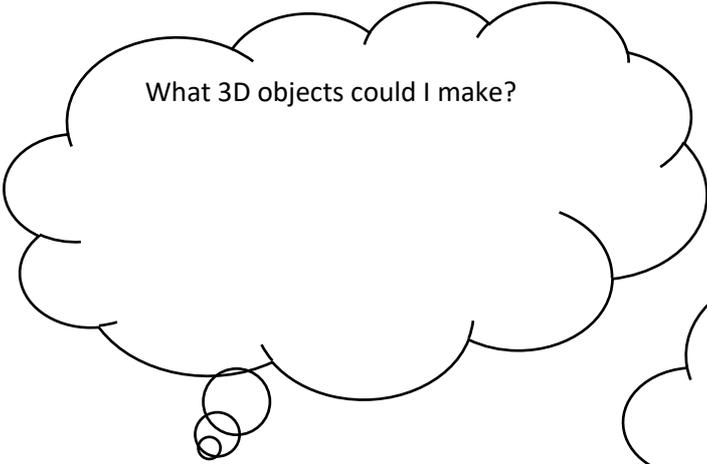
It is very important to organise your objects and images as you go along. Use this space for to start planning your project.



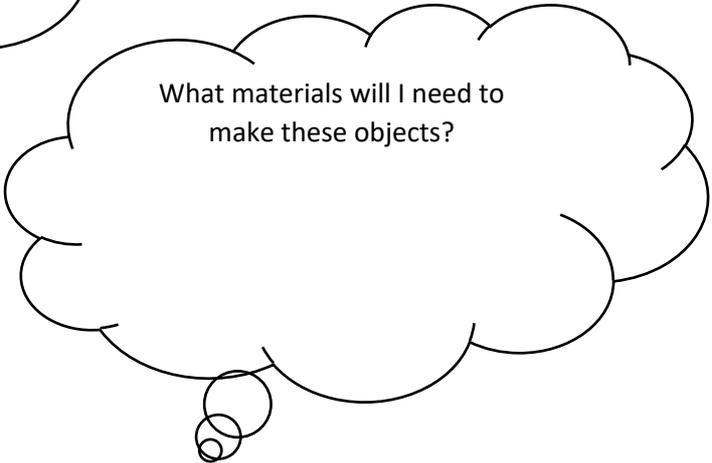
What would make a good background?



What will be in the centre?



What 3D objects could I make?



What materials will I need to make these objects?

## Examples

Here are some examples of shoeboxes that the current year 7 have made:



### Instructions for Making Your Shoebox

#### Step 1

- Put your shoebox on its side.
- Decorate the inside first i.e. the back, floor, sides and ceiling.
- If you want to 'wallpaper' the sides, draw round the box as a pattern first.

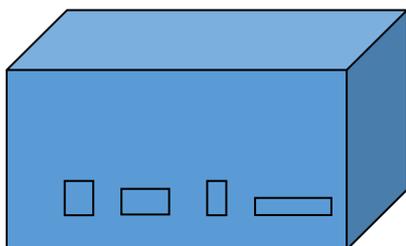


#### Step 2

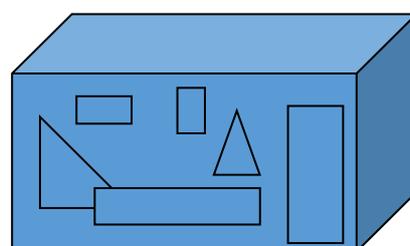
- You can decorate the outside of your shoebox if you wish.
- Write your full name, form and primary school on the back of your box.
- Think about the size of your objects so that they look interesting in your box.
- Make sure they are not too small.
- Place all your objects in the box. Keep moving them around until you like the arrangement.

#### Step 3

- Ask friends or family for their opinion



The objects here are too small.



This one is much better. The objects have been well arranged.

#### Step 4: The last step

- Once you are happy with your arrangement, you can start sticking!
- Remember to start at the back, then do the next layer working towards the front.
- You can glue objects to the back, sides, to each other or hang them from the ceiling.
- Once you have finished you can congratulate yourself on having made a Joseph Cornell 'Art box'
- Remember that you will take your box to secondary school so keep it safe.