

## Art Challenge: The Art of Eric Carle

Eric Carle loves to use collage to create his wonderful illustrations. Have a look at [www.eric-carle.com](http://www.eric-carle.com) to find out more. Your challenge is to use his painting techniques to create some special paper, then to cut out shapes to make your very own animal in the style of Eric Carle.

You will need at least three different pieces of painted paper for this project so it would be good to ask other members of your family to join in, if they have the time. You will all need to be patient and complete this activity in stages.

Have a look at these photographs, which show Eric Carle himself decorating paper for his paper collection.



You will need paper, different coloured paints and scissors. Eric Carle uses tissue paper, but I have done this with ordinary paper and it still works well.

**Step 1:** Take one piece of paper and completely cover it with paint - any colour you like. Leave it to dry.

**Step 2:** Take a contrasting colour and add a pattern on top - dots, splodges, lines - anything you can think of. You can use a brush, your fingers or even an old tooth brush to create a flicking effect. No need to be neat! Leave it to dry.

**Step 3:** Take another colour and add another pattern on the top. Make it something different again.

**Step 4:** Same again!

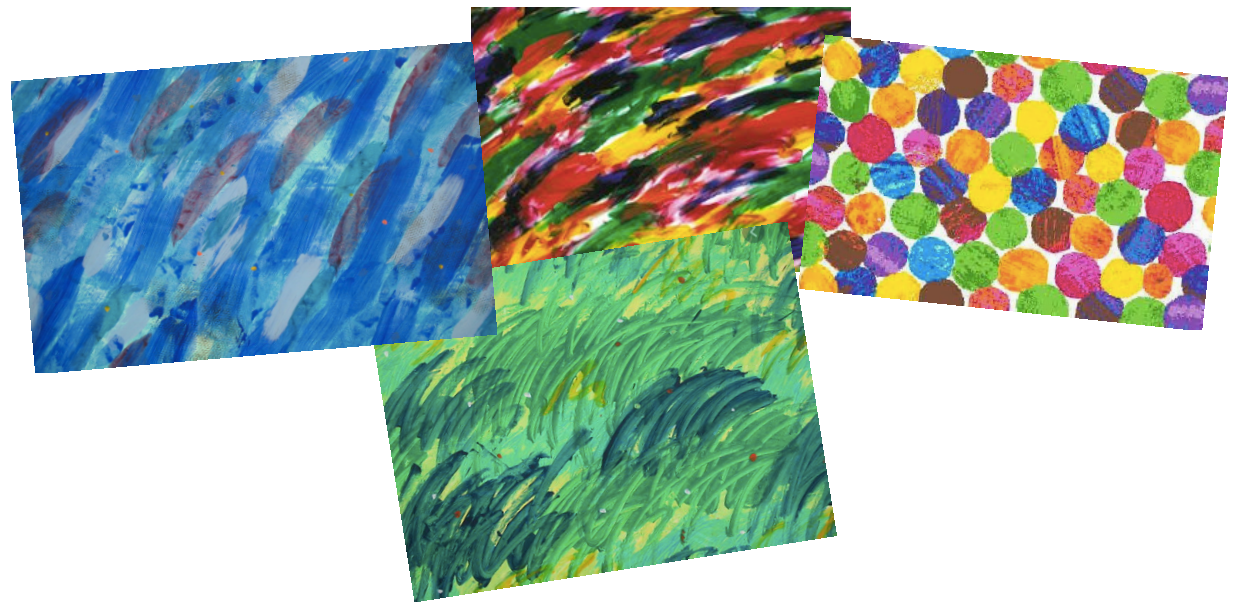
**Tip:** small patterns work best for this project.

Now you have a wonderfully decorated piece of paper ready to use in your collage. If you are lucky, other family members will have done the same so that you have a selection of papers. If not, take another piece of paper and repeat steps 1 - 4 . Make sure you are using **different** colours.

When you have three or four different pieces of finished paper, you are ready to begin your collage.

Decide on a mini beast you would like to create.

I am choosing a made-up insect! I don't think this is like any real insect, but I will make sure it has three body parts, six legs and antennae, like all insects.



*This is the fun part! Decide which paper you are going to use for the head. Draw a head shape onto your paper and cut it out. Choose a different piece of paper for the body and cut that out. Choose a different sheet for the legs and cut them out. Stick all the body parts onto a clean piece of paper.*

Don't waste any scraps! Perhaps other members of your family will want to join in and create their own made-up mini beast too, using all the left-overs.

My Finished Insect in the style of Eric Carle

