



megan coyle
artist & illustrator

Make a Megan Coyle-Style Narrative Collage

Study Megan Coyle’s artwork and take note of what characteristics her collages share. What colors does she use the most? How are the pieces of paper cut? How are they arranged?

Plan to make three narrative collages that fit together to tell a story. Think of each collage as a scene from a story.

In order to work like Coyle, you must include the following:

1) Look for different colors and textures in magazines.

Instead of cutting out entire images like in this collage:



Cut out pieces of color to make something that looks like this collage:



2) Cut the paper into distinct geometric shapes.



Megan Coyle
Couple by the Potomac (detail)



Megan Coyle
Karim’s Father (detail)



Megan Coyle
Ali (detail)

3) Make sure you include a distinct background that gives the artwork a setting.



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You will need: paper, pencils, magazines/construction paper, scissors, and glue sticks

1. Think of your own original story that you would like to illustrate. Imagine **three** different scenes that fit together. Think of the first collage as the beginning of the story, the second as the middle of the story, and the third collage as the ending to the story.
2. Sketch each scene on a piece of paper.
3. Go through magazines/piles of construction paper and pick out the colors you want to use.
4. Start cutting the paper into geometric shapes. Glue down pieces of paper on the background first.
5. Glue down pieces of paper on the foreground next.
6. Repeat steps 3 - 5 for all three collages.
7. Compare your narrative collages to one another. Do they fit together to tell a story? Do they use similar colors? Did you include objects or use a person's body language to help move the story along?

Megan Coyle writes stories that go along with some of her illustrations. Write your own story that goes along with your three paper collages.

1. Imagine how the collages represent the beginning, middle, and ending of a story.
2. Explain what is happening in the images and use specific details from the collages that support your story. How does the story progress?
3. You picked specific colors for different sections of your collage. How can you tie color to your story?
4. When you're finished writing your story, share your artwork with the class. Could they guess the story you had in mind when you made the artwork?
5. Turn in your written story with your collage art.

