

Artivism – Art for Action



Kirklees is an area that is known for its activism – campaigning for political or social change.

To the left is Baroness Betty Boothroyd, born in 1929 in Dewsbury. She is an activist who has spent her life fighting for equal rights for women in parliament.

She is the only female to have sat as Speaker of the House of Commons.



Things I really care about and would like to change for the better...



Above are posters and banners designed for the Jo Cox Memorial. Jo Cox was a Labour MP from Batley who was murdered in 2016.

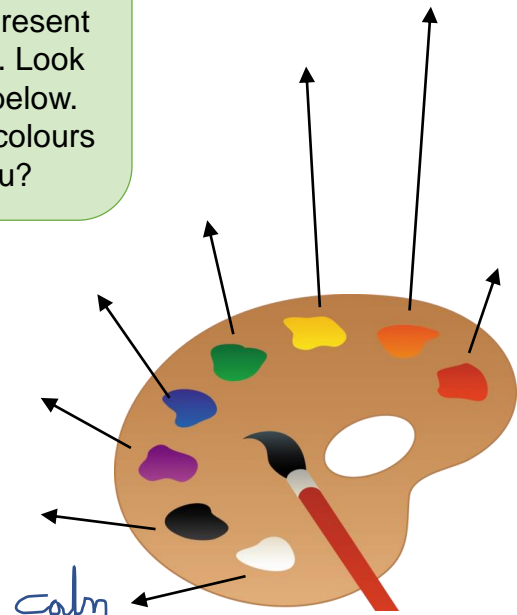
Activists use art to help them campaign for things they care about and things that they want to change. What things would you like to change? Write down your ideas to the left.



Activists use colour carefully as different colours can represent different things. Look at the palette below. What do these colours mean to you?



Activists think about the size and shape of their letters when they use text. Look at the artwork by Bob and Roberta Smith above (at Yorkshire Sculpture Park). Do you think this would be read out quietly or loudly?



Printmaking

Printmaking is a way of creating a logo or motif that you can easily repeat onto lots of surfaces.



1 Draw out your design on paper to practice it. Sharpen your pencil and then copy your design onto the foam, pressing about half way down into the foam on every line.

2 Next, use paints and a brush to cover the foam printing plate. You can mix colours together or paint different parts in different colours. Remember that every time you do a print, you need to apply paint.

3 Turn the plate upside down and push it firmly down onto the paper. Then peel the foam plate away to reveal the design. Next, you can print on a tote bag or even an old t shirt!

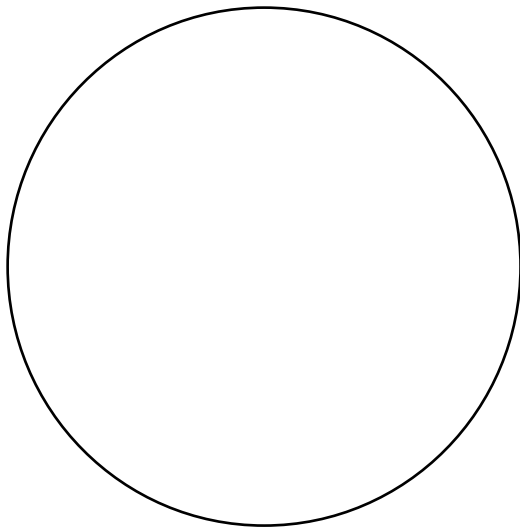


1. Go slowly when you're drawing or the foam will rip!

2. Avoid painting the lines – you want these to stay white.

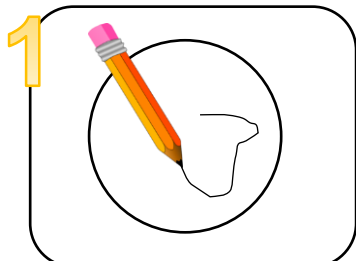
3. Keep the plate still when you print or your design will be smudged.

Badge Making



Button badges were invented by Benjamin Whitehead in 1893. Badges are used to celebrate events like birthdays but also to raise awareness and show support for certain social or political causes.

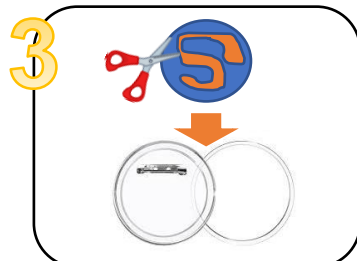
My design



Draw your design on paper in pencil first.



Then add colour with felt tip pens.



Cut it out, then put the badge together.



Wear your badge on your clothes or bag!