

MUSEUMS AND SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

Hammerhead Crane painting activity sheet

The Cowes Hammerhead Crane is an iconic Isle of Wight landmark and the only surviving pre-WW1 crane of its type in England.

The 80-ton cast-iron cantilever crane was used by shipbuilders J.S. White to produce naval warships in Cowes including HMS Cavalier, now on display at Chatham Historic Dockyard, and ORP Błyskawica, a Polish destroyer which famously defended East Cowes from German bombers on the 4-5 May 1942.

This sheet accompanies a video demonstrating how you can create a stylised architectural painting using strips of plastic or card in place of paintbrushes.

Materials

- reference image of Cowes Hammerhead crane (see template or look online)
- sheet of A3 (or A4) paper
- black paint + one other colour of your choice
- 'painting edges' made by trimming plastic or card (expired loyalty cards work well). Suggested lengths 2, 5, 10cm and widths of 0.5, 1, 2, 4, 5 cm.

Nb Make sure you have permission to use scissors if trimming materials and be aware cut plastic may be sharp.*



Instructions

- before you begin, gather all your resources and materials together
- cover your workspace to protect surfaces from paint
- watch the video demonstration all the way through
- work from the largest to smallest painting strips, putting in the crane uprights and horizontal sections, then cross struts, then railings
- keep it loose and do not worry about exactly recreating the crane.

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