

ACTIVITY 6

DECOUPAGE

AGE: 10 - 14 years | ACTIVITY LENGTH: 1 Hour

MATERIALS REQUIRED

PVA glue or Modge Podge,
An image printed on paper, a pair of scissors,
An old gift card, fine sandpaper, clear varnish,
A paintbrush, some old newspaper.

BEFORE YOU START

Varnish and glue are sticky and difficult to remove from surfaces. Sandpaper will create dust. You should make sure that all surfaces are protected by placing plenty of old newspaper on your work surface before starting.

Step 1

Prepare the surface of your piece of furniture. Choose the area you want to add the image to. Make sure the area is clean, then sandpaper the area until any varnish or polish is removed.

Step 2

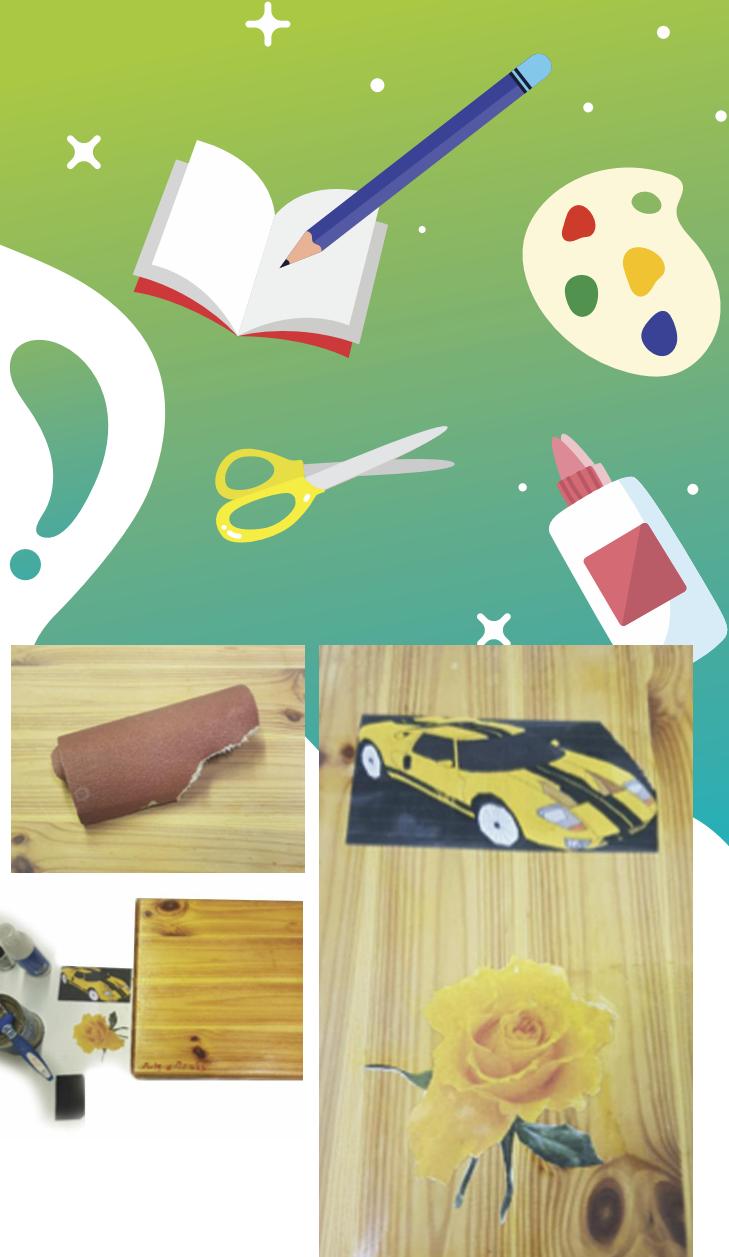
Trim your image with the scissors, remove any parts you don't wish to use. You can leave the background in, or you can trim it away. It's up to you how you want the image to appear on your piece of furniture.

Step 3

Apply glue to the back of your image. Make sure the glue is spread evenly and there are no lumps or thicker areas of glue and then, stick the image to the area you have prepared on your piece of furniture.

Step 4

Now, take your gift card, and use the flat edge of the card to smooth out the image, which will now probably have some bubbles and creases from the effect of the wet glue, working from the centre out to the edges until the image is lying completely flat against the surface of the furniture.



Step 5

Carefully clean away any residue of glue which has been pushed out from under the image while you were smoothing it out.

Step 6

Now, when the image has dried onto the piece of furniture, go around the edges with your paintbrush, and add a thin film of glue to make sure the edges are properly fixed to the backing surface.

Step 7

When the area is completely dry, apply your varnish, beginning your strokes well away from where the image begins and finishing well after, use smooth, side to side strokes, not adding too thick a layer of varnish at any point.

Step 8

After 24 hours, carefully sand the area where the varnish was applied to smooth out the surface. Then, apply another coat of varnish as above.

