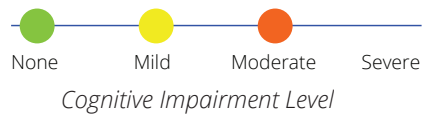


Art Activity

# Animal Collage



## Summary:

Residents use images to create a collage depicting various animals.

## Objectives:

- Encourage creative expression
- Foster positive mood
- Encourage verbalization/reminiscing
- Promote pro-social interaction



## Supplies:

- Magazine images of various animals
- Glue
- Scissors
- Sturdy paper for mounting images

## Room Set Up:

- Seat residents at tables to work.
- Play soft, instrumental music:

 *Music, TV & Film > Jukebox*



# Facilitating the Activity

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## Procedure

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1. Personally welcome residents to the group by saying each person's name and shaking each person's hand.

**Say:**

*"Welcome to our group! Today we are going to have fun creating something called a collage. Does anyone know what a collage is? Collage is a French word that means 'to glue.' It is a way to make art from several different items, like paper, string, or fabric. Today we will make our collage based on different animals."*

2. Invite residents to generate a list of animals. Write these on a flip chart/white board for residents to reference. Encourage discussion and elaboration (e.g., land animals, amphibians, ancient animals, flying animals, pets, etc.).
  - Animals that live in water, animals that live on land (fish, dog)
  - Animals that live on land and water (turtle, frogs, ducks)
  - Animals that fly, animals that crawl (eagle, worm)
  - Animals we see at the zoo or in the wild (elephant, deer)
3. Depending on functioning level, you may place several select pre-torn pages or a few magazine images in front of residents (dog/cat, nature magazines, for example). Invite residents to select images that represent the theme and position them on the paper. When in desired position, resident can glue down the images. Resident can write associations (e.g., my favorite childhood pet, visits to the zoo, etc.) next to the images.
4. Collage is complete when resident indicates their desire to stop.

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## Processing

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Invite residents to share their collages and experiences. Provide positive feedback for all efforts.

- » Did they enjoy identifying images for their collage?
- » Were there certain images common to the residents?
- » What was the first image they chose and why?

Thank residents for participating.

Encourage verbal elaboration—if they can write, invite them to write word associations (or write for them if they are unable).

Make sure images are pre-cut.

Pre-select a few images for residents and ask if they know the animal name.

Invite residents to select images that appeal to them in some way—encourage reminiscence.

Make sure images are large enough for resident to see clearly.

Add sensory component (puppets, real animals, animal sounds).

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## Adaptations/Modifications

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### Cognitive Impairment: None to Mild

- Provide more resources: more magazines tailored to the theme, larger paper, scissors, markers for written embellishment (e.g., create a word bubble for what this picture could be describing, what this image might say if it could speak...”).
- Encourage them to generate stories, poetry, or written work to compliment visual expression.
- Promote verbal elaboration by encouraging residents to ask about the images. Invite them to question one another.
  - » What is your favorite image?
  - » Why did you pick that?
  - » What does that mean to you?
- Invite them to have dialogues with the images
  - » If this animal could tell you something, what would they say?
  - » What are the animals thinking?
  - » What are the animals getting ready to do?



### Cognitive Impairment: Moderate to Severe

- Provide concrete directives—provide a starting point for residents to reduce anxiety and promote engagement.
- Provide pre-cut images and ask residents to sort images (allow them to decide how they want to sort images), ask them about images, spark discussion and reminiscing.
- Use smaller sized paper (8.5x11 or 11x14).