BUILD YOUR OWN COLLAGE

Supplies

- Glue or glue stick
- Scissors
- Magazines, newspapers, photographs (include some newspaper to cover your workspace for easier clean-up)
- Paper for backing (cardstock or construction paper works best, but computer paper is fine)
- Cut-out letters (optional)
- Markers, colored pencils, or paint (optional)

Instructions

1. **Come up with a theme.** This will help you plan what goes on your collage. Some ideas: by color, creating a landscape (forest, desert, city, etc.), or around a concept (evoking an emotion, making a frame around a quote or a poem, or as a background for a poster). Alternatively, you can just cut out pictures that appeal to you and build a collage with these pieces.
2. **Cut your pieces closely along the border so they are easier to layer.** Using rounded cuts can make the pieces fit together more organically than sharp shapes, unless that's what you prefer!
3. **Play around with the layout before you start applying glue and fixing your pieces on permanently.** Contemplate what will go in the background or foreground. Layering can create a depth of field. You can incorporate 3D objects like pressed flowers, yarn, or tissue paper for a more textured effect.
4. **Glue the separate pieces down once you like the layout you have.** Try to cover all of the backing paper with your collage. Don't worry about going over the edges of the backing paper. It's unique that way.
5. **Marvel at your completed collage!** Or add to it with text or paint, whatever inspires you.