**Who is Henri Matisse?**

Henri Matisse was a French artist who loved **bold colours**, **simple shapes**, and **joyful designs**. Later in his life, he made beautiful pictures using **painted paper cut-outs** — he called it “**drawing with scissors**.” His art is full of **energy, colour**, and **movement**!

**Painting in the Style of Matisse**

**🖼️ What you will make**

In this tutorial, you’ll create a **Matisse-style painting** with **bright, flat colours** and **fun shapes** like **leaves, stars, and dancing figures**. You can paint the shapes directly or cut and glue them on paper like Matisse did!

**🧰 You Will Need:**

* White paper (A4 or bigger)
* Paints or coloured paper
* Paintbrushes and water (if painting)
* Scissors and glue (if cutting)
* Pencil (optional)
* Black marker for details (optional)

**Step 1: Pick a Theme**

Think of something **joyful** or **fun**, like:

* Under the sea 🌊
* A garden of shapes 🌼
* Dancing stars ✨
* A jungle of colour 🌿

**Step 2: Paint a Bright Background**

1. Paint the whole paper one bold colour — maybe **blue**, **yellow**, or **pink**.
2. Let it dry before adding shapes on top.

**Step 3: Add Flat Painted Shapes**

1. Use bright paints to **paint big, simple shapes** right onto the background:
   * Wiggly leaves
   * Big stars
   * Flowers
   * Circles
   * People dancing
2. Matisse used **flat colours** — no shading, just one colour per shape!

💡 **Tip:** Don’t worry about making the shapes perfect — they should look **fun and free**!

**Step 4: Arrange Shapes with Movement**

1. Place your shapes so they **dance across the page**.
2. Try **overlapping** some shapes or letting them go **off the edge** for movement.

**✂️🎨 More Creative Activities**

**🎨 1. Make Your Own Matisse Cut-Out Art!**

Matisse loved using paper and scissors to make pictures — this is called **collage**.

🖐️ **You will need:**

* Coloured paper
* Safety scissors
* Glue
* A large piece of paper to stick everything onto

✂️ **Your mission:**

* Cut out different shapes: stars, swirls, leaves, hands, and circles
* Glue them onto your page to make your own Matisse-style art
* Use bright, happy colours!
* Give your artwork a title — just like Matisse did!

**🎨 2. Collage the Snail!**

Matisse made a famous artwork called **"The Snail"** using colourful paper shapes.  
Recreate this picture using only **bright, bold coloured shapes**.

**✂️**3. **Flower power!**

Cut some flowers and dry them under a big book, between sheets of tissue. Once they are dry, use them to create a collage of a flower vase