

Welcome to this month's **Arts Award Monthly Round-Up**, where we celebrate the imagination and ingenuity of our young people.

💡 Big Questions, Bright Ideas

As we all know, the hardest part about finishing something is actually starting it in the first place, and getting started is hard!

The very first questions in our study packs are often the most difficult for our young people, but they are the most important questions in the pack, as they can define what the young person will explore for the rest of their Award.

At **Explore level**, we use our questions to make young people think about art in a new way.

While using our Disney-themed Explore pack, **Explore Disney**, B gave these brilliant responses to the first two questions:

What is art?

Art can be lots of things, including drawing, painting, illustration, music, drama, and dancing. It's a way of expressing yourself.

What do you need to be an Arts Explorer?

Imagination and interest in different types of art.

We couldn't agree more. Art *is* all-encompassing and a powerful form of self-expression. Creativity begins with curiosity and imagination, and B showed plenty of both!

🎨 Here's their **final piece**, which not only featured an illustration of Captain Hook, but also a fascinating colour exploration. B experimented with how colour affects perception by redrawing the character in different colour schemes—a fun and clever way to explore colour theory!



💡 Setting Challenges at Silver Level

At the **Silver level**, young people set a personal arts challenge. It's not always easy—some find the opening questions the most challenging as they:

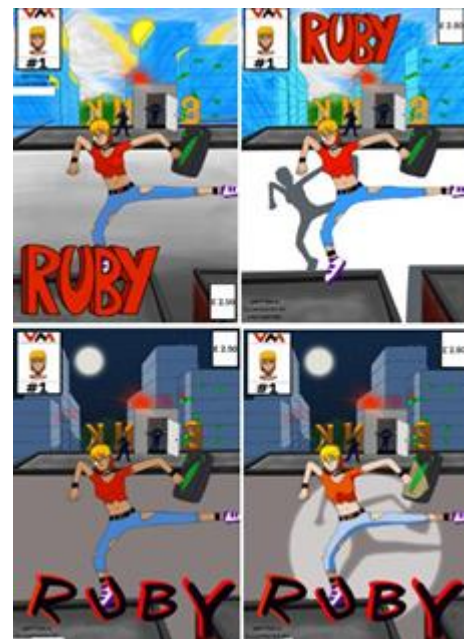
- Try to analyse their own work – a tricky thing to do for someone just starting on their learning journey.
- Consider which specific skills they want to develop during their Award

V faced this head-on. Already confident in drawing lifelike cartoon characters, they considered challenges in proportions, anatomy, or colour work.

Eventually, V chose to focus on **shading and lighting**, aiming to make their characters *pop*.

☀️ After lots of practice and reflection, V produced this brilliant final work—cleverly showcasing their new skills to bring their characters to life.

A smart and strategic skill-building choice!

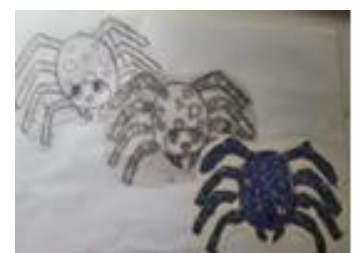


🕷️ Spotlight on Technique: Image Transfer

L impressed us all with a bold and exploratory approach to **image transfer**.

They tried:

- Using **tracing paper** to transfer a detailed spider illustration




- **Embossing** images onto metal sheets for a dramatic effect



These techniques resulted in some seriously striking artworks—we're sure you'll agree!

A Note About Our Packs

As B said, “*Art includes lots of things.*” That’s why our study packs are flexible and varied

 All our study packs follow the same curriculum framework, but they are worded and presented in different ways to support different learners.

Themed Packs

Our themed packs include:

- A **visual arts** strand, to support the young person who enjoys all forms of visual art and/or may wish to pursue the visual arts as a career.

These include such packs as ‘Explore Disney’, ‘Marvellous Bronze’ (Marvel-based) and ‘Illustrate Silver’.

- A **performance arts** strand, also available in many formats to facilitate different performance art forms, from Explore, to Bronze and to Silver level

Non-Themed Packs

These packs are designed to support mixed interests across art forms,


especially useful at **Explore** and **Bronze** levels, where learners want to mix and match their learning to include different media and different experiences


Of course, not all young people want to follow just one strand, and we have many students who have used different pack types as they worked their way through from Discover to Gold, to match their likes and dislikes at any one time.

For a full list of all the packs available, please see our info pack or registration form

Stay Inspired!

As always, we're blown away by the creativity, commitment, and curiosity of the young people we work with. June has been full of artistic discovery, personal growth, and impressive final pieces.

 If you're interested in taking an Award, visit our website at www.artsawardinitiative.co.uk or email us at artsawardinitiative@gmail.com to learn how to get started.

 If you want to learn more about how colour works for you in your art? Check out Josef Albers' colour theory exploration on our website www.artsawardinitiative.co.uk

Until next time,

The Arts Award Initiative Team