

Photographic Collage



The goal of this project is to get residents working together for a common purpose. This can take the form of a few different art projects, but this one will tie residents and their life stories to each other.

The project requires printed photographs supplied by residents. It is important that these photographs are copies of originals in case the photograph gets damaged in the process of hanging or display.

You will need:

1. Photographs from residents.
2. A large, empty wall to display collage.
3. Tape or other temporary adhesive appropriate for the wall.
4. This could be permanent with a large piece (or pieces) of chipboard or other backing and permanent adhesive.

Instructions:

1. Inform residents of the project and have them attain a copy of a photograph from their life. It could be a family portrait, of them on vacation, or a birthday or other event.
2. Allow time for them to attain a copy of a photograph as they may need to contact family members or have a copy made.
3. Locate an empty wall within a visible area of the property from which images may be attached to the wall. Or gather permanent materials if desired.
4. Have residents gather at a certain date and time and encourage them work together to create a collage with their images. They could be arranged chronologically, by event, subject matter, etc.
5. Encourage residents to share the story behind the photograph with the other participants. This creates discussion and conversation about possible shared life experiences and will allow for the opportunity to further understand each other.
6. Adhere photographs to wall or material appropriately.
7. As a bonus, have the residents create an "Artist's Statement" that shares what they learned and how they decided to arrange the images. Display this next to the collage.



Physical Distancing Adaptations:

1. Disperse instructions and information to participants via email or leave printed papers at doorway.
2. Give residents a time frame to attain a copy of their photograph and to write a short story of their piece. A video conference could be held for residents to work on their pieces together if technology is available.
3. Have residents leave the photograph and story outside their doors at a specified time and date.
4. Assemble the photographs and display in a prominent area on the property so residents can read and view the piece. Display the stories with the piece if possible.

Resources:

Copies of photographs may be made at office supply stores such as Office Depot, Staples, or Kinko's. Photo Centers in stores such as Costco or Walmart may also be able to make copies. Check with store websites for more information.