

Create a Home Gallery with Amanda Ralph

Make a window display, breathing new life into old objects lying around your home. Suitable for all ages, young children will need an adult to work with.

You will need

- Some old objects/things from around your home.
- A surface to make a display (e.g. windowsill/table/mantel piece shelf)
- A camera (optional)



1. Go on a **treasure hunt** looking in cupboards, drawers maybe even memory boxes for objects that haven't seen the light of day for a while.
2. **Lay your 'haul'** on a large surface, table or floor.
3. **Sort** into the piles that link or connect the objects, e.g. colours, surface material, scale i.e.
 - i. **Colour:** *You can organise your favourite colour (see yellow example), or favourite combination (see yellow, black & red example)*
 - ii. **Surface:** *Think opposites rough/smooth, matt/shiny pattern/plain (see flowers example)*
 - iii. **Material:** *Glass, ceramic, metal(s), fabric etc*
4. Identify where you want to **display them** (window ledge, dressing table etc).
5. **Have fun playing** with the objects you put together, how they look next to each other and the stories behind them. This is called the juxtaposition.
6. Give it a **title** (optional). See the titles Amanda has used on her photos on her UH Arts 'Create it Share it' page for ideas.

Create a Home Gallery with Amanda Ralph

Take it further

1. Turn it into a **still life photography project** (this is a series of objects grouped together that do not move). Tate explains here [<https://www.tate.org.uk/art/art-terms/s/still-life>]. Take several photos, at numerous angles, maybe even at different times of day and share your favourites with us. You may see the light change or shadows.
2. **Mix it up:** Use your creation as a starting point and consider adding to your display so it can be a permanent feature in your room. Lift some of the restrictions (from point 3) and incorporate other colours, styles to compliment your room.
3. **Clutter clear out:** We all keep 'things' for different reasons. This project may have given you an opportunity to re-connect with objects that you may had forgotten or thought were lost. Ask yourself if you still like, want or need them? Letting go of old stuff creates space mentally as well as physically for the things you love.