

## Worksheet 1 - silhouette paper cut by artist Jeni Cairns

This worksheet takes you through the stages of making a silhouette cut out image. Try the example below before trying your own versions using different contrasting colours and different images / themes

### Materials: You will need

- 2 sheets of black paper
- 2 sheets of a contrasting colour each e.g. white, yellow, pale blue
- A plate
- Pencil
- Glue stick
- Scissors (tear items if you don't have scissors)

### Optional

- Pen to match background sheet (black is a good choice).
- printout or magazine pictures to cut out (inspirational images, water patterns, river creatures etc)

### Step 1: Drawing your design

- On the white paper draw around the plate to get a circle
- Think about other things related to the river, fishing, boats, nature, wildlife, flowers, grasses, pollution.
- Draw a river inspired design within the circle. Draw one key feature and then add in other details
- Make sure some things go right to the outside of the circle.

Tip: simple shapes designs are often best

*This example has a dragonfly as the main feature with river plants e.g. a flag iris and seed heads in the background.*

### Step 2: Cutting it out

- Cut out the different pieces of your picture. Make sure to cut beyond the circle. If you can cut it all in one piece great. Don't worry if you can't as it's going to be glued down.

Tip: Pay close attention to small details such as legs they can be tricky, but any mistakes can be glued on later

Tip: If you are cutting something that is a single line, cut either side of the line



### Step 3: Arrange your picture

Arrange your cutout pieces onto the black sheet of paper (put the side with your pencil marks on it facing down so the pencil doesn't show). Play with your arrangements until you are happy with it..

### Step 4: Stick down the pieces with the glue stick.

Stick the background pieces down first.

Remember to apply glue to the side with the pencil marks on it.

Now lay it on the black sheet and stick it down.

Tip: Be careful when applying the glue as some bits will be delicate and could tear.

Tip: put a sheet of newspaper under so you don't get glue on the table or on the black sheet.



### Step 5: Add your frame

Next draw a circle with the same plate on a second sheet of white paper and cut the middle out

Place this over your image as a frame. This will cover any bits that extend beyond your circle.



### Step 6: Add the detail

Now it's glued down you can add details it you want to. In the example I have added details in the body and wings of the dragonfly and the flag iris too. You can do this by using a pen which is the same colour as your background, or by cutting small pieces of black paper and sticking them on.

