

ASSEMBLAGE

Many famous people liked Arcimboldo's portraits so much that they paid him to paint one for them. Arcimboldo's paintings are made by assembling a collection of objects. You can make a strange head using things you have at home.

WHAT YOU NEED
A Collection of Interesting Objects
Cardboard • Pencils
Craft Glue • String

PROJECT: COLLAGE

Step 1. Collect all kinds of interesting objects like paper clips, thread spools, string, nuts and bolts, hooks, screws, pins, wire, wrappers, and wood. Find a piece of cardboard from an old box. It will need to be thick and fairly big. Glue on some fine string to make the outline of a face and neck.



Step 2. Try out different objects you have collected to see which look best as eyes, ears, nose, and mouth. Choose something that would make good hair. When you have made your arrangement, glue it in place and let it dry. You could frame it and invite your friends to see your curious picture.



GALLERY

Vertumnus 1590

GIUSEPPE ARCIMBOLDO (1527 – 1593)



FRUIT
Can you see why each piece of fruit has been chosen? The pear looks like the shape of a nose.



MATERIALS
What would you choose to make a head, eyes, nose, mouth, and hair if you were to make a picture like Arcimboldo's?



DETAIL
Each fruit and flower is painted with great care, showing every detail. Some look good enough to eat.



SUBJECT
Do you find this man's head interesting, friendly, or a bit frightening?

An Italian, born in 1527, Arcimboldo started his work as an artist by making stained-glass windows for churches. He became interested in painting strange and curious people who were considered grotesque. He painted fruit, flowers, trees, and vegetables to create his amazing heads.