

HOW TO IMPLEMENT A PAINTING WORKSHOP IN THE COMMUNITY

Objectives of the painting workshop

- To promote recreational, formative and occupational activities. We are looking to get closer to culture which is seen as a remedial and educative tool thus making learning without error easier.
- To offer different visual products which will serve to make socio-cultural and work integration easier
- To offer a language which helps them to communicate and understand the different contexts in which they are going to find themselves, in expressing themselves and in relating to others.



Painting activities develop: communication-integration creativity.

Human resources for the workshop

For a population of 4 participants: a trainer (painting specialist) and 1 mentor.

It depends on the level of autonomy and the experience of the participants

In situations where the teaching of new skills is required, the specialist will provide individual attention.

Space and equipment; structuring the environment

The painting workshop (in Autism Burgos) is conceived as a regular workshop which is held Monday to Friday at the Day Centre: 3 hours in the morning and 1.30 hours in the afternoon.

The room is an open area, in which each person with autism can choose where to work according to preference, needs of the group and work being done. The specialist moves round totally at the disposition of the students. Organization is flexible and can vary at any moment according to the requirements of the work being done



The workshop is structured into 4 clearly defined areas:

- 1 Team-working
- 2 Individual work
- 3 Easel
- 4 Area for storage and the preparation of materials

Equipment

Computer
Computer pad for drawing
Exhibit easels
Cassette/CD player
Cupboards for the storage of perishable materials and finished products as well as shelves for storing various activities
1 large table for work in groups, 2 tables for individual work and a bench for assembly work
Recycle bins for different waste materials

Materials

Information board panels
Board (for pictures)
Canvasses
A range of cardboards of different thicknesses and quality, coloured paper, fabric for covering, etc.
Scissors of different sizes, different rulers, cutters, glue, varnish, paints, felt tip pens, paintbrushes, acrylic paints, oilpaints, watercolours, brushes of different thicknesses, spatulas, tracing paper, etc
Folders for keeping individual users' work and activities

Organization of the work session

Before the activity

The different stages of the work process are shown step by step on information picture panels. The users take part in choosing the work for the day. Once the work has been



A lot of materials can be used in the workshop



organized and tasks have been assigned to each person, the specialist carries out those work processes that the users can not do themselves.

The work materials are self accessed by the users and are visually organized for easy selection and use both when carrying out the task as well as when storing their work and the tools at the end of the activity.

The tables are covered before work commences so that delicate work materials are kept clean and so that they can be used again.

Picture making process

There are four types: Original or free-style picture, traced picture, picture completed on top of guide image and copied picture

Apply white glue or primer as preparation or base

Spread out base paint

Draw or trace the picture onto the dry background

Colour in the picture

Complete the process with different artistic techniques.

Frame and mount.



BASIC RULES FOR FUNCTIONING

At the start of the activity

The workshop activity starts with a small informal talk in which ideas are exchanged and a decision is taken on the type of work to be carried out, giving the users the opportunity to choose between different alternatives,. The work is then presented.

Once tasks are assigned, each person is responsible for gathering the materials needed for the activity.



During the activity

Whilst the work is being carried out the specialist is constantly supervising the activity offering the necessary verbal support, prompts or hands-on help according to individual needs. In the case of specific matters or doubts users are directed towards the visual information panels. The purpose of this is to encourage self autonomy in the workplace so that the users themselves solve their own small problems.

At the end of the activity

Each person is responsible for putting away his/her own work, along with all the tools used including the cleaning of the same.



Structuring the tasks

The work processes are an example of the products which are made in the workshop. The tasks are organized in step by step stages in order to facilitate learning and the carrying out of the task. This structuring of the task by stages allows for the work to be adapted to the level of each user, in a way that each person can take part in the process be it to a greater or lesser extent,

Depending on the task to be carried out, the work is organized individually or in a group.



The time taken for each process to be completed is determined by the group, the level of difficulty of the task and the need for specific support.

The workshop activity is determined by the demand for the product; in this way, when demand is high support staff are used, (to help with the tasks) and when demand is lower, the specialist is able to spend more time teaching specific work skills.



Evaluation of the process and of the products

Self evaluation and evaluation by other participants

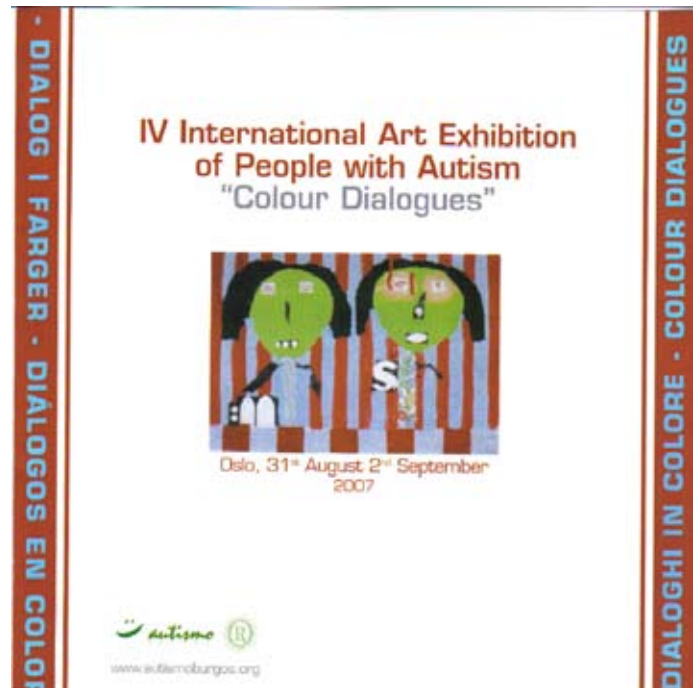
At the start of each year a personalized programme is drawn up in which objectives are set out and the kind of support required by the individual specified. This programme is reviewed throughout the course and is open to continuous changes in view of advances made by the individual and new changes in support.

Evaluation of the final products

At the end of the course, a general assessment of each personalized programme is made including observations and suggestions for the design of the following year's programme.

The originality of the artistic work, together with the quality guaranteed by the Certificate of Quality ISO, determines the final level of client satisfaction.

Internacional Art Exhibitions



FINAL PRODUCTS OF THE WORKSHOP

Pictures:

Christmas cards
Wedding and Holy Communion invitations
Posters
Illustrations for books, newspapers and magazines
Didactic material
Pictures for business and public administration premises

Decoration of gifts.

The products made are on constant exhibit at the centre. Additionally we take part in local, regional and national exhibition fairs in order to get ourselves known.

Wedding and Holy Communion invitations



Christmas cards



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