



Projects
&
Workshops



Elaine Grant

'I love encouraging people to find their creative selves through experimentation and exploration and witnessing the enjoyment they get from the creative process.'

Elaine Grant (aka MissE)

is a textile artist, designer and maker based in Aberdeen, Scotland.

Thriving on the process of designing and creating her own work, Elaine is also very passionate about encouraging creativity in others.

With experience of working with children and adults of varying ages and abilities, Elaine has delivered a variety of creative projects and workshops in a wide range of different settings.



Creative Experiences

Whether working on projects independently or in partnership with different schools, communities or organisations, Elaine's fundamental aim is to spark imagination and enhance creative learning experiences.

Elaine creates a supportive environment, encouraging participants to shape their own learning by exploring and experimenting and by finding new ways of expressing their thoughts and ideas.



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An emphasis is always placed on the creative process rather than on any final outcomes with the aim of encouraging enjoyment and enthusiasm throughout the overall creative experience.



"Elaine is sensitive to the needs of parents and their early years children, she's always very committed to her work and flourishes equally well in both school and community settings"

Lindsay Dawson, Creative Project Coordinator - Early Years and Families, Aberdeen City Council



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"They (school values characters) are fantastic. You have done an amazing job!"

Sue Gordon - Teacher at Hazlehead Primary





Elaine has worked on a variety of projects with schools, community groups and organisations. For example, while working on a project with pupils from Hazlehead Primary School in Aberdeen with the aim of developing and creating characters that represented the schools' values she:

Delivered a visual, interactive presentation about her work and her creative practice during a school assembly.

Encouraged pupils to handle her 'giant' textile characters while introducing the concept of creating drawings of their own characters that could represent their school values.

Supported pupils to think about each of the five characters in terms of appearance, colour, texture and movement.

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Inspired pupils to create line drawings of their characters, adding details of any specific colours, patterns or fabrics they would like to see used in the construction of their character.

Invited pupils and family members to vote for one drawing of each character which they would like to see transformed into GIANT textile characters.

Created five giant three dimensional textile characters inspired by the five drawings selected by pupils and family.

Documented the creative process throughout and sent work in progress images to the school.

Presented the final school values characters at a whole school assembly.

Shared her experiences and a visual diary of the different stages and processes involved in the construction process during a final presentation.



"Wow! These (characters) are amazing. The elephant is definitely my favourite!"

Donna Wilson (Designer)



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"I didn't think it would be so big...it looks just like my drawing...it's so cool!"

Primary 5 Pupil - Hazlehead Primary





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Elaine has delivered individual workshop sessions and blocks of workshops, often working to fit into specific themes and/or projects. Some examples of previous workshops include:

Marvellous Monster Workshops

Creating marvellous monsters of all shapes and sizes from recycled materials

Mask Making Workshops

Exploring and experimenting with a variety of materials to create masks to express different emotions/personalities

Collage Character Workshops

Turning character drawings into 3D forms using a variety of collage materials

Weaving Workshops

Experimenting with simple weaving techniques while exploring texture and colour

Character Sewing Workshops

Using simple sewing techniques and reclaimed textiles to create unique textile characters

Themed Collage Workshops

Working with a variety of sensory materials and exploring different techniques to create 2D & 3D themed collage pieces

Dream Catcher Workshops

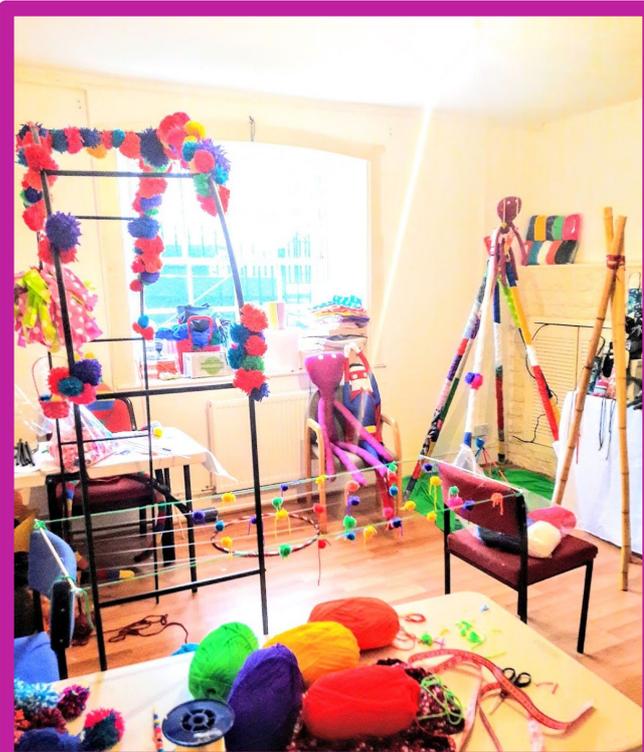
Experimenting with different coloured and textured yarn/buttons/beads

Puppet Making Workshops

Experimenting with an assortment of materials and techniques while exploring different types of puppets

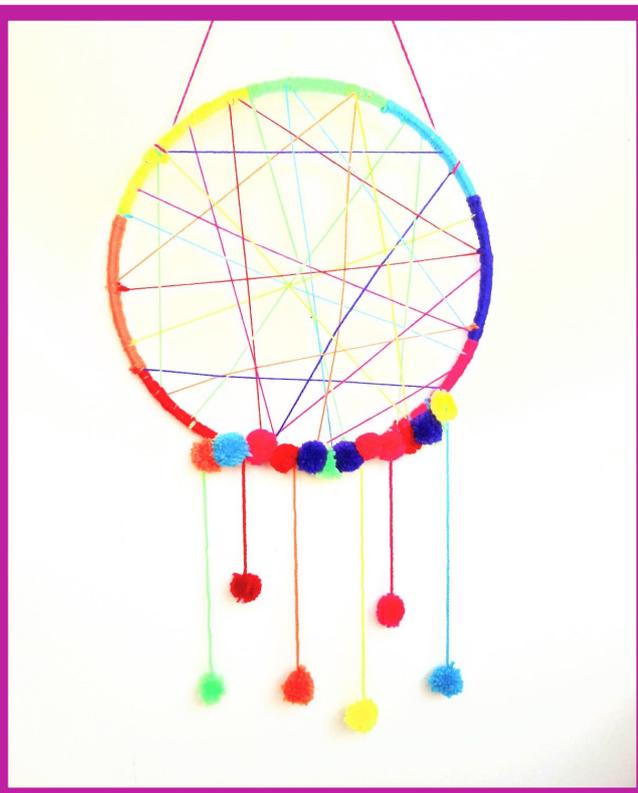
Pom Pom Making Workshops

Experimenting with colour and texture while exploring different pom pom making techniques



"It was a very inspiring workshop. The children were always excited and eager to get started. They really were such fantastic, creative and engaging sessions."

Jane - parent&child workshop participant



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"...having the children work with Elaine to design and create real characters had a massive impact on the whole school"

Christine Beard - Depute Head Teacher, Hazlehead Primary

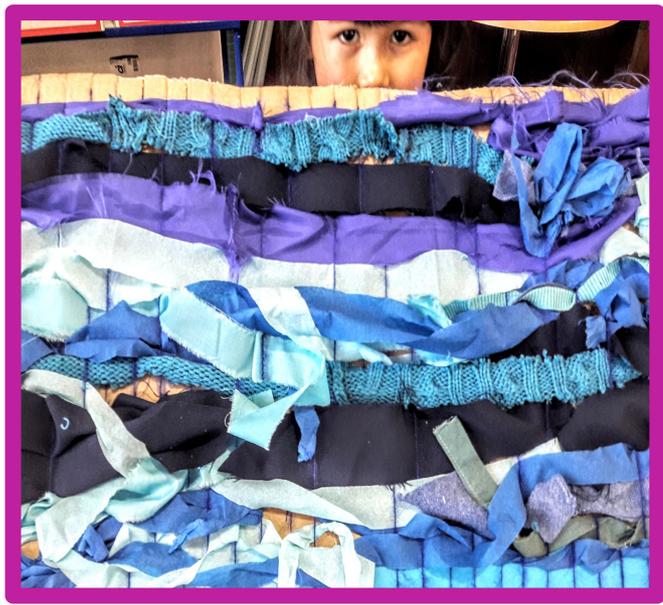




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Sustainability

The majority of the materials used in Elaine's projects and workshops are sustainable. Working with reclaimed, vintage, found, donated and collected materials, participants are often invited to bring along materials from home that they no longer need/use so they can be 'transformed into new life!'



Age

While the majority of Elaine's experience lies within the early years, primary school aged children and families, she has also worked with teens, college students, hen parties and the elderly.

Projects and workshops can be adapted and tailored to suit a variety of ages and abilities.

The Giants

Elaine is often accompanied by one or more of her giant textile characters during workshop sessions! These characters play an important role for children and adults alike, engaging participants, helping 'break the ice' during session and building on the positive energy within the workshop space.

"Hamish (a 5 ft scotsman) certainly added a little 'je ne sais quoi' to the whole workshop experience! We had such a fabulous time while making our pom poms in his company!!!"

Felicity - workshop participant



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"The bunny really captured the children's imaginations."

Alice - AIYF volunteer

