

Artist's Journals

To accompany your collage, keep an artist's journal that explains why you have chosen the particular words and images that you have and that discusses your own successes and challenges. You should keep ongoing entries on your own that focus on the information below, which is broken into the different stages of the project.

Stage I: Gathering Resources

As you gather resources for your collage, include the following information in your Artist's Journal:

- documentation of images and words that you choose, including the specific source, which might be a particular page number in a magazine or a URL of a Web page).
- accompanying explanation for each image and word that you choose—why did you choose the item? what do you think it might represent in the collage?

Stage II: Making Choices

Talk about your decision-making process in this section of your journal. As you narrow down the images and words that you'll use on your collage, describe the different images and words that you'll keep in these ways:

- Why did you choose each image or word?
- What do you hope to use each image or word to communicate to people who see your collage?

Additionally, discuss the images and words that you choose *not* to use. Why have you decided that they are not appropriate?

Stage III: Arranging the Collage

Describe why you place the images and words where you do on the collage. How do they relate to the images they are near? How do they contribute to the overall message of the collage?

Stage IV: Artist's Statement

Your final Artist's Journal entry should be an artist's statement, which explains what you want viewers to know about the style, images, words, and general theme that you have chosen. State what the message behind your collage is. Focus on saying everything in about 100–200 words. Include the title of your collage as the title for your artist's statement.