

Collage Project Creative Process Reflection

Word Count: 484

During our first day of collage creation, I didn't really know what I wanted to make. I just flipped through a lot of magazines and cut out pictures that I thought looked interesting, or that I thought might go well with what I had already cut out. However, nothing emerged, and I didn't end up using any of those pictures. Between the two sessions, I had an idea. I wanted to arrange words in a circular pattern around a phrase in the middle (which I can't remember now), but I couldn't find the words I was looking for, and I didn't have the time to flip through all of the magazines to find what I wanted so I had to discard that idea. I then found the grassland picture that I used in my final collage, and I thought that it would be interesting to have that in the foreground, and something else in the background. I then found the cityscape/bridge picture and thought that the urban image would provide an interesting contrast to the nature one. I used the lion picture as I thought that it would look like a guardian or something to that effect. I also needed something to go in the middle because the pictures I used were two-page spreads, and I wanted to cover the seam in the middle up. I wanted to add some text that said something interesting about what I had created, but I couldn't think of anything, so I just had it say, "something interesting."

I struggled to think of a theme or idea that I wanted to use to create a collage, and this made it hard to look for images to use. When I just cut out what looked interesting to me, it ended up being a lot of random, disjointed images that didn't have any sort of central theme that I could've built a collage around. I suppose I could have just stuck them on as is, and not tried to think of a theme, but it didn't occur to me. Now that I think about it, my problem may have been that I tried to work with a theme or idea instead of just putting it all together as I went and seeing what emerged at the end.

For my free writing, I started out writing a story with the lion as a guardian of a city, or ancient ruins, or a high-tech city for the rich while the poor were kept outside, but I could not get it to work the way I wanted to, so I started to write a poem about the same thing. This poem ended up turning into a story about a cat who thinks of himself in lion terms but is chased by a monster that ends up being a child. I am not sure how it ended up this way, but it somehow did.