

# teen take & make

[maker kit]  
wilmette public library

## Chigiri-e (Torn Paper Painting)

Use torn paper and glue to create a beautiful watercolor-like collage with the Japanese paper craft of chigiri-e.



## Ingredients (Included)

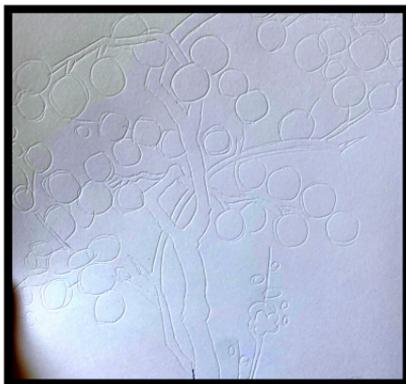
- 1 sheet cardstock
- image templates
- 1 bottle glue
- 1 brush
- assorted collage papers

## You Supply:

- embossing tool (optional)  
or pen/pencil
- small bowl or tray for glue
- tweezers (optional)

## Directions:

1. Choose one of the templates to work with. (You can also draw or freestyle a design of your choice. Skip to Step 3 in that case.)
2. Place your template over the cardstock and trace over it with an embossing tool or pen/pencil. If you press firmly on a hard surface, it will leave an indented outline on the card stock that you can use as a guide. Just don't press so hard that you tear your template. (You can tell that I simplified my outline.)



## Directions, cont.:

3. Choose a piece of the assorted colored paper. Trace a shape from your template onto it, then tear the paper along the traced shape. You can also lightly draw your shapes with pencil.



4. Glue your torn piece onto the card stock. Add a little water to your glue in a dish and use the brush to paint the glue directly onto the card stock. Then use your fingers or a pair of tweezers to position the torn paper.



5. Repeat. Keep choosing new papers and tracing and tearing shapes to glue onto your cardstock.

Remember, the goal is to use the torn paper to create texture and movement and color. It doesn't have to be perfect!



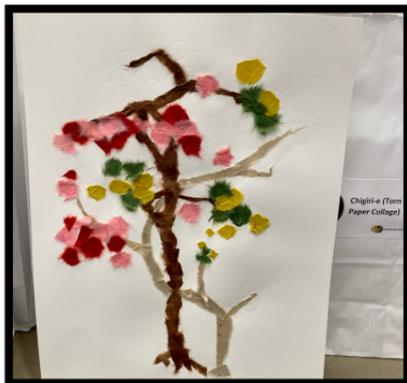
## Directions, cont.:

### TIPS:

Improvise and have fun.

Don't go ham on the glue to start. You can always add more if your paper isn't sticking.

If you're frustrated with tracing and tearing the shapes to mimic the drawing, try another way: you can tear paper into tiny pieces first and glue onto the card stock, like one of those paint by sticker sheets.



I picked the most complicated one for my sample and ran out of time to add all the flowers I wanted, but I think it still looks okay!

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Have questions or comments about our Teen Take & Makes? Email me at [khutley@wilmettelibrary.info](mailto:khutley@wilmettelibrary.info)

Proud of your final project? Post a picture and tag [@wilmettelibraryteens](https://www.instagram.com/wilmettelibraryteens) on Instagram!

# About Chigiri-E

In Japanese, "chigiru" means to tear off or shred and "e" (eh) means picture. Traditional chigiri-e dates back to the Heian period (794–1185) of Japan. Artists use handmade paper (washi) to create pictures that look like watercolors, often paired with calligraphy.

The technique begins with tearing washi into pieces and adhering it to paper in a collage, which creates depth, texture and dimension. From far away, the image looks like a painting, and it's only until you're close that you can see that it is assembled from torn and layered paper fragments.



# About Chigiri-E



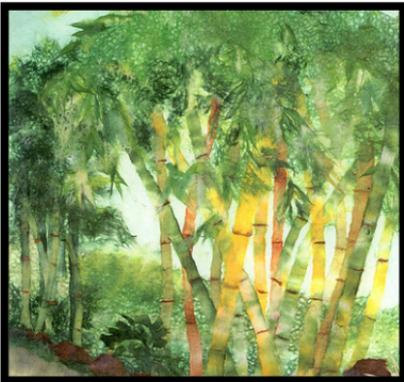
Yamashita Kiyoshi

<https://www.yma-web.jp/exhibition/special/archive/yamashitakiyoshi2014/closure/index.html>



Noriko Matsubara

<https://norikoart.com/>



Lily Nakao

<http://lilynakao.com/>



Keiko Suzuki

<https://keikosuzukiart.com/>