

Mini Art Lesson:

Gele Pride Flag by Adejoke Tugbiyele

To create **this artwork**, Adejoke Tugbiyele, a Brooklyn-born artist who identifies as a queer woman of Nigerian descent, sewed together six *gele*, which are headscarves worn by Nigerian women for important events. By bringing together these six headscarves associated with womanhood, and putting them together like the rainbow of the Pride flag, the artist affirms two aspects of her identity. Follow along for step-by-step instructions to create your own rainbow paints and Pride message with kids ages 2–6, and a paper flag project for kids ages 7 and up.



FOR AGES 2–6: LET'S PLAY

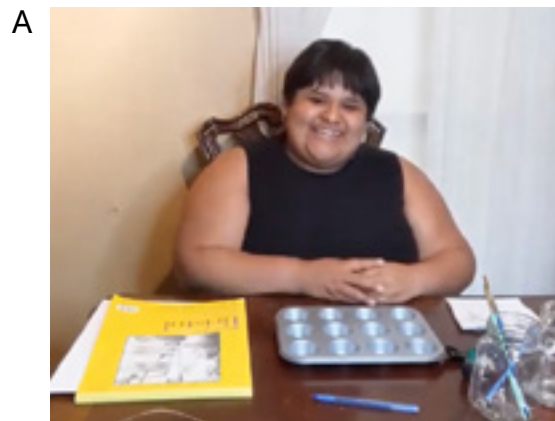
Tugbiyele's work is about celebrating Pride through the rainbow Pride flag. Today, we'll make our own rainbow artwork with teaching artist Sarah Chavarria! (A)

Step 1: Gather your materials. You'll need:

- Paper
- Baking soda
- Food coloring
- Spoons
- A cupcake tin or bowls
- Marker
- Cotton swabs or paintbrush
- Water
- Vinegar (optional)

Step 2: Mix your paints! Combine baking soda, food coloring, and water to make different colors and shades. You can also make colors using brewed tea or coffee. Add more food coloring to make it a deeper color, or add water to make it a lighter color. (B)

Step 3: Now, start using your colors to paint. You can use a cotton swab or a paintbrush. Sarah's using all of her colors to create a rainbow design inspired by the *Gele Pride Flag*! (C)



FOR AGES 2-6:
LET'S PLAY (cont.)

Step 4: Let your painting dry. You can add a special message that's Pride themed. Sarah writes: "You are loved!" (D)

D



FOR AGES 2-6:
LET'S PLAY
BONUS!

Create fizzy paint by adding in vinegar to your paints!
What's it like to use fizzy paint rather than regular paint?

FOR AGES 7+:
LET'S CREATE

Some of us may not have fabric or be able to sew, but we can still explore color, flags, and identity with Tugbiyele's work! All you need is paper, scissors, tape (if you have it), and colored pencils or markers.

Step 1: First, take two pieces of paper and fold them into thirds. (A)

Step 2: Then, cut along the fold lines to create six pieces of paper. (B)

Step 3: Take a look around your home or neighborhood. What patterns can you find? What aspects of your identity are represented in these patterns? Museum Education Fellow Katherine Chavez found a quilt that her mom made, which has many different patterns. (C)

B



C



A



FOR AGES 7+:
LET'S CREATE (cont.)

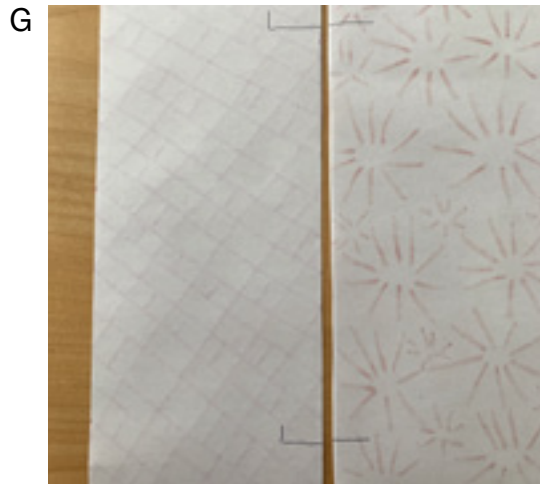
Step 4: Using your markers or colored pencils, draw one pattern in a different color on each sheet of paper. (D)

Step 5: Now, let's bring them together into a flag! Arrange your pieces of paper, lining them up next to each other. (E)

Step 6: At the point where your two pieces of paper meet, make a two-inch horizontal line that goes across both pieces of paper. Make one of these lines one inch from the top and a second line one inch from the bottom. (F)

Step 7: On one sheet of paper, draw a small line from the end of the first line going up. Do this on both lines. (G)

Step 8: On the second sheet of paper, draw a small line going down. Do this on both lines. (H)

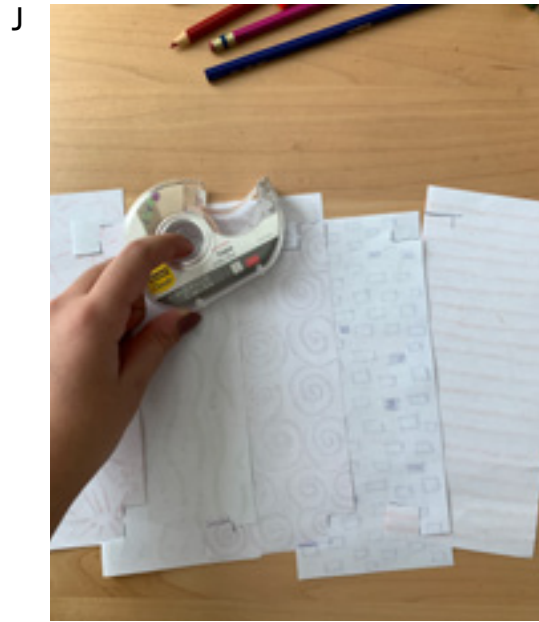


FOR AGES 7+:
LET'S CREATE (cont.)

Step 9: Cut along the lines you made. Then, bring the papers together at the notches. They should stay together! (I)

Step 10: Repeat this until you've attached all six sheets of paper across. Reinforce the notches with tape, if you have it. (J)

Step 11: Now you can hang up your paper flag! What does this flag say about who you are? (K)



From top: Adejoke Tugbiyele (American, born 1977). *Gele Pride Flag*, 2014. Fabric, metallic thread, brass. Brooklyn Museum; Gift of the artist in honor of the LGBTQ brothers and sisters we lost in Orlando, 2016.24. © Adejoke Tugbiyele. (Photo: Brooklyn Museum); For ages 2–6: (Photos: Sarah Chavarria, Brooklyn Museum) For ages 7+: (Photos: Katherine Chavez, Brooklyn Museum)