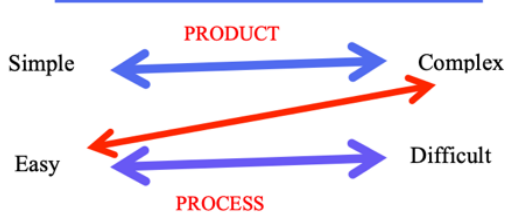


9 Key Principles for Designing OMA Art Projects that enable people with dementia to flourish.

9 Key OMA Principles	Critique #1 Color Surprise (Stencil on Scratchboard)	Critique #2 Pipe Cleaner Stamping	Critique #3 Colored Sand Painting
<p>1. Keep things complex, but easy to do.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Separating Conflated Continuum</u></p> 	<p>These are all easy processes, but none of them result in a complex product!</p>		
<p>2. Layer processes within the same activity.</p>	<p>All of these projects are one layer only, not multilayered, so they do not result in a complex finished project. The building process of several simple layers creates the complexity.</p>		
<p>3. Give choices to promote individual expression.</p>	<p>No choices except the choice of the stencil.</p>	<p>Limited choices- acrylic paint only (vs. layering of different art media)</p>	<p>Limited choices - sand color only</p>
<p>4. Draw on strengths; do not privilege intact cognition and fine motor skills</p>	<p>All of these art projects privilege intact cognition and fine motor skills (i.e., working within the stencil, folding the pipe cleaner, controlling and squeezing the glue bottle). Layering simple processes levels the playing field.</p>		
<p>5. Create structures to create freedom (i.e., rituals/routines for predictability, minimize interruptions, delays, visual & audio “clutter”; fixed partners)</p>	<p>This principle cannot be observed in any of these projects, but the OMA process very intentionally provides predictability and minimizes distractions.</p>		
<p>6. Support their independence</p>	<p>None of these projects support independence. Artists could easily “get stuck” unable to move forward on their own without assistance.</p>		
<p>7. Be creative yourself and use artist grade materials.</p>	<p>This project does not use</p>	<p>This project</p>	<p>This project does not</p>

	<p>artist grade materials, stencils are childlike and scratchboards are most often used by children.</p>	<p>does not use artist grade materials, except the acrylic paint. Pipe cleaners are used by children & used for craft activities vs. fine art.</p>	<p>use artist grade materials. Elmer's glue and sand are craft materials and frequently used by children. It sends messages that this is a project suitable for a child vs. an adult.</p>
<p>8. Maximize possibility for "flow" experiences (i.e., clarity of minute-by-minute goals, immediate feedback from the activity itself, task matches skills, being in control)</p>	<p>All three projects provide limited opportunity for flow. There may be some immediate feedback from these activities, like the scratchboard reveal and the result of stamping, but there is a lack of opportunity for skill and task matching and limited ability for artists to exercise artistic control.</p>		
<p>9. Celebrate their creativity, on the spot (be authentic) & at public events. Use art talk.</p>	<p>This is not observable, but the limited ability to exercise artistic freedom limits artists' creativity. Art talk would be much more challenging with the lack of complexity of the finished products.</p>		