

PRIMARY SCHOOL

TS ARCADEMY

Primary School

First and second-grade educational institutions within the Italian National Education System are eligible for a free experience (visit + workshop) during the 2024/2025 school year, subject to reservation and availability.

- Breathe Breathe The Breath Crown
- Cardboard Necklaces
- Artistic Paper Craft Workshop
- Art Collage
- Sustainable Floral Art
- DIY Bioplastic: recipes for future materials
- What's in the Box
- Hats off
- Fit like a Glove
- Bestiary Wardrobe
- Anaglyph Friend
- Let's make Felt
- Get weaving
- Banana Nettle Crochet
- Treasure Hunt

Breathe Breathe - The Breath Crown

Inspired by an ancient Japanese legend, illustrated by designer Hazuki Katagai, this activity delves into the calming and soothing practice of breathing.

Author Hazuki Katagai

Participants will explore the significance of breath in Asian culture by creating a unique crown with a veil, designed to help children visualize and understand the movement of their own breath. This interactive exercise enhances awareness of our bodies and energy, fostering a deeper connection with other living beings, including animals, plants, and the world around us. The workshop concludes with a hands-on session where participants will craft their own special crown, featuring a veil that moves in harmony with their breath.

Hazuki Katagai is a Japanese designer and artist, recognized as a finalist in the ITS Contest in 2016 and 2019. Her collection "The Breathing" (2019) serves as the inspiration for this workshop, emphasizing Eastern philosophy's approach to breathing and encouraging us to adopt her motto: "Believe in the power of imagination.

what	creative workshop
what you will learn	breathing and relaxation techniques, ancient Japanese legends, awareness of one's body and breath
for whom	first, second, third, fourth, and fifth-grade classes
duration	60 minutes
language	Italian, English
price (guided tour + workshop)	€14*

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Cardboard Necklaces

In this workshop, we will focus on the use of common, ecological materials and explore their alternative applications by crafting a necklace made from recycled cardboard together.

Author Francine Oeyen

Almost everything we own, use, or consume has likely arrived in a cardboard box. Cardboard is an omnipresent material in our lives and homes - affordable, durable, organic, and sustainable. It contains, protects, and preserves valuable items. In this workshop, cardboard will take centre stage as we uncover its many facets, especially the unexpected ones: cardboard can be precious, luxurious, and beautiful. With a touch of creativity, even used cardboard can be transformed into something exquisite. Beauty can be found in every material, including recycled cardboard. For the decorations and colours, we'll draw inspiration from Latin America, guided by designer Francine Oeyen, and immerse ourselves in the vibrant cultural traditions and hues of an Argentine Fiesta.

Francine Oeyen is an Argentinian jewellery designer and visual artist, and a finalist of ITS 2014. Her experimental collection of paper and cardboard necklaces is inspired by the shapes and colours of Latin Fiestas. In this activity, we will take inspiration from her traditional use of waste materials, upcycling techniques, craftsmanship, and the explosion of gold and Argentinian colours.

what	creative workshop
what you will learn	that beauty is hidden in the most common materials, the history of cardboard, and how to decorate and design inspired by the colours of the designer Francine Oeyen
for whom	third, fourth, and fifth-grade classes
duration	60 minutes
language	Italian, English
price (guided tour + workshop)	€14*

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Artistic Paper Engineering Workshop

In this special artistic paper engineering workshop dedicated to ITS, participants will collaborate to create a collective paper collection, made even more beautiful by the shared effort.

Author Annalisa Metus

Simple recycled paper will tell a story—not through written words, but through cut-outs, folds, collages, and intricate designs. Page by page, a unique collection inspired by ITS Arcademy will come to life. Creating each composition requires both fun and concentration, as participants give value to every little piece and strip of paper. The end result is the satisfaction of taking home a small masterpiece that is not only ecological but also deeply personal. Paper transforms into a creative medium through the imagination, manual skills, and original ideas of the participants.

Annalisa Metus is a paper engineer specialising in the pop-up book technique. She creates artist books, set designs, and installations that are truly magical works of paper art. Based in Trieste, she conducts workshops for both children and adults, where she masterfully blends paper and music.

what	creative workshop
what you will learn	a brief history of paper, what a leporello is, and how to create new stories with ecological and recyclable materials
for whom	first, second, third, fourth, and fifth-grade classes
duration	60 minutes
language	Italian, English
price (guided tour + workshop)	€14*

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Art Collage

Create a collage using simple, modular shapes made from paper and recycled materials, transforming old paper and scraps into something new and aesthetically pleasing.

Author Elisa Vendramin

Postcards, old photos, travel souvenirs, school notebooks, and letters—all remind us of how paper preserves our history and memories. In this activity, inspiration will be drawn from the fabrics, patterns, and colours on display at ITS Arcademy. Participants will cut out geometric modular shapes, compose an image or figure, and carefully glue the final result. A crucial step in the process will be determining the right moment to declare the artwork complete and fix it permanently in place. Throughout this activity, participants will explore topics such as colour perception, colour matching, manual skills, material transformation, diverse textures, and geometric shapes.

Elisa Vendramin is a graphic designer and illustrator whose work is deeply influenced by the natural landscapes of Northern Europe. She explores digital collage techniques and applies them to her graphic and illustration projects. Her use of fragmented and geometric colours, shapes, and patterns evokes the poetic landscapes of Icelandic rocks, stalactites, cliffs, and other natural formations.

what	creative workshop
what you will learn	to get to know and observe in detail the artworks on display at ITS Arcademy, create artistic collages with recycled and reclaimed paper, perceive and match colours, and transform the simplest materials into a creative project
for whom	first, second, third, fourth, and fifth-grade classes
duration	60 minutes
language	Italian, English
price (guided tour + workshop)	€14*

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Sustainable Floral Art

Guided by seasonality and inspired by the ITS collection, we will create delicate, ephemeral, yet beautiful floral art pieces by hand—colourful and sustainable.

Author Laura Vaccari - Fiorificio

From the floral decorations and patterns of buds, leaves, botanical subjects, and wildflowers on fabrics to the latest plant-based materials, there is a deep connection between fashion and flowers, between art and nature. Today's intensive production and distribution of flowers often mirrors the fashion industry in its rapid pace and environmentally irresponsible practices. Drawing inspiration from the work of Japanese designer Asumi Maeda, preserved in the ITS Archive and dedicated to the lush nature of Hokkaido, we will engage in eco-friendly creativity. In this workshop, participants will create floral arrangements using only natural and sustainable materials—without adhesives, sponges, or imported flowers. All materials will be sourced from meadows and forests, including wild herbs, imperfect flowers, berries, twigs, and recyclable trimmings.

Laura Vaccari is a floral designer from Trieste with a sustainable approach to decoration. Her thematic creative workshops teach participants to work by hand, listen to stories and ancient traditions, and practice beauty and art in a responsible way.

what	creative workshop
what you will learn	appreciate the rhythm of the seasons, find beauty in unconventional natural elements, learn small techniques of floral design, and explore biodiversity
for whom	first, second, third, fourth, and fifth-grade classes
duration	60 minutes
language	Italian, English
price (guided tour + workshop)	€14*

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DIY Bioplastics: recipes for future materials

The fashion materials of the future are being crafted from food and waste, using sustainable and ecofriendly production processes. These innovative materials can already be found in our kitchens and trash bins. In this workshop, we will explore the world of compostable and biodegradable bioplastics by transforming everyday items like coffee grounds and eggshells into something new, acting as little chemists, chefs, and designers.

The future of plastic is bio: sequins made from sugar, and culinary properties of natural products are merely secondary to their creative potential. We'll delve into the possibilities of food products and waste, such as pineapple leaves, apple and orange peels, grape pomace, shellfish shells, and mushrooms, to create sustainable materials. This workshop will highlight sustainable alternatives to traditional plastics and explore their potential applications in our daily lives. Inspired by the ITS Arcademy archive and designers who have used unconventional materials like potatoes and gelatin for their extraordinary creations, we will envision the future of the materials we use, our clothing, and the planet's resources. Participants will also leave with a unique recipe book, guiding them from plate to wardrobe, with methods to create bioplastics from food waste.

what	creative workshop
what you will learn	to discover sustainable alternatives to plastic, to creatively use food waste, and to touch and handle unconventional materials
for whom	first, second, third, fourth, and fifth-grade classes
duration	60 minutes
language	Italian, English
price (guided tour + workshop)	€14*

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What's in the Box

A silkworm cocoon, a cotton flower, a sea sponge, sheep wool, tailor's chalk... what's in the box? In this engaging and playful activity, participants—either individually or in teams—stimulate their imagination and curiosity by trying to guess, with hints and clues from others, what object or material they are touching, smelling, or even listening to.

The mysterious box contains various objects, fabrics, or materials waiting to be discovered. Through this workshop, participants will refine their senses to identify what they are interacting with, using touch, smell, and hearing to explore the weight, texture, and stories that each material and object has to tell. This experience encourages the rediscovery and practice of using senses beyond sight to understand the world around us, while learning about the unique characteristics and histories of various materials, objects, and fabrics.

what	creative workshop
what you will learn	identify materials and objects hidden in a box through touch, sound, and smell; discover their characteristics, origins, and stories
for whom	first, second, third, fourth, and fifth-grade classes
duration	60 minutes
language	Italian, English
price (guided tour + workshop)	€14*

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Hats off

The stunning hats from the ITS Archive serve as the inspiration for a creative workshop dedicated to millinery. Young hat makers will have the opportunity to design and craft their own unique headwear - whether simple or unconventional, classic or futuristic - using paper and recycled materials.

Participants can explore various styles, from wide-brimmed felt hats and elegant bowler hats to woollen caps, straw hats, top hats, and even chef's hats. This workshop bridges traditional headwear for work and special occasions with the imaginative designs found in the ITS Arcademy Archive. Each hat in the ITS Archive tells a story of dreams, journeys, distant places, ancient traditions, or near futures. In creating a new hat, each participant will have the chance to express—and wear—their most original and creative ideas.

what	creative workshop
what you will learn	to create with paper and recycled materials; to express one's tastes and preferences creatively; to practise divergent thinking and share and be inspired by others' ideas
for whom	first, second, third, fourth, and fifth-grade classes
duration	60 minutes
language	Italian, English
price (guided tour + workshop)	€14*

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Fit like a Glove

Swedish glove maker Thomasine Barnekow invites you to a creative workshop dedicated to her speciality: gloves.

Author Thomasine Barnekow

Note: Gloves are not merely for keeping warm or performing everyday tasks. According to Thomasine, gloves are precious, soft jewels, tropical plants, or delicate, colourful flowers that embrace our hands. In this workshop, participants will explore how this ancient, traditional, and modern accessory is crafted. They will test their skills and unleash their creativity by tackling the challenge of making gloves - using paper.

Thomasine Barnekow is a Swedish glove designer who divides her time between her parents' countryside home in Sweden and her extraordinary atelier and shop in the historic heart of Paris. A finalist in ITS 2007, she views gloves as soft jewels, creating scented gloves inspired by nature and architecture for prestigious brands such as Schiaparelli, as well as for films and celebrities.

what	creative workshop
what you will learn	the history of gloves and how they are made; to create and decorate a pair of paper gloves
for whom	first, second, third, fourth, and fifth-grade classes
duration	60 minutes
language	Italian, English
price (guided tour + workshop)	€14*

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Bestiary - Wardrobe

Chelsea Jean Lamm's garment, Echoes of Eden, envisions a future where humanity and technology coexist harmoniously with nature.

Author Elisa Vendramin

Inspired by medieval bestiaries, the garments transport us to an otherworldly realm where utopian creatures reign supreme and the boundaries between human, animal, and machine become indistinct. This activity delves into the art of collage and the history of "Bestiaries," a category of books popular during the Middle Ages. These texts described and illustrated, often in a quasi-scientific manner, both real and imaginary animals and beasts, suggesting a world inhabited by magical and sometimes fearsome creatures. In this workshop, participants will create unique, three-dimensional "imaginary creatures" by cutting and gluing images and reclaimed materials that might seem to contrast with one another.

Chelsea Jean Lamm, a South African-German designer, envisions a future where humans and machines achieve a harmonious coexistence with nature. Her garments, inspired by medieval bestiaries, are kaleidoscopic armours depicting flora and fauna at risk of extinction.

Elisa Vendramin is a graphic designer and illustrator. Influenced by the natural landscapes of Northern Europe, she focuses on digital collage in her graphic and illustration projects. Her fragmented and geometric colours, shapes, and patterns evoke Icelandic rocks, stalactites, cliffs, and poetic landscapes.

what	creative workshop
what you will learn	imaginary creatures from mediaeval bestiaries and 'dressing' them, playing with composition, and giving new life to scrap materials
for whom	first, second, third, fourth, and fifth-grade classes
duration	60 minutes
language	Italian, English
price (guided tour + workshop)	€14*

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Anaglyph Friend

Let's discover a new word and see beyond just two dimensions. Using old theatre films and a bit of cardboard, we'll craft special glasses to experience and imagine beyond the ordinary 2D reality.

This workshop is dedicated to Noa Baruch, a finalist designer from ITS 2021, who draws inspiration from a 50-year-old pattern notebook belonging to her grandmother. Designs and instructions annotated on these 2D pages will come to life as real, 3D garments to touch and wear. Anaglyph refers to the 3D stereoscopic effect achieved by overlaying two images taken from different angles in red and cyan colours. By recycling old theatre films, we will create 3D glasses and see the world and the art around us with fresh perspectives.

Noa Baruch is an Israeli fashion designer and a finalist at ITS Contest 2020. Deeply connected to her family's traditions, particularly those of her grandmother, and profoundly inspired by her cultural heritage, she specialises in tailoring and denim. Her special Anaglyph project features a versatile, adjustable denim ensemble suitable for various genders and usable by all family members, enhancing every body type. The red and cyan overlapping stitches and details play with the anaglyphic perspective illusion, creating a new silhouette with carefully crafted 2D/3D buttonholes and buttons.

what	creative workshop
what you will learn	to learn what an anaglyph is; to create 3D glasses using recycled materials; to creatively reuse materials no longer in use (such as coloured theatre films)
for whom	first, second, third, fourth, and fifth-grade classes
duration	60 minutes
language	Italian, English
price (guided tour + workshop)	€14*

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Let's make Felt

In this workshop, our goal is to master the art of felting wool—not as a result of a laundry mishap or an unsuccessful rinse. Through the process of squeezing, with water, soap, and the skilled use of our hands, we will learn one of humanity's oldest techniques, predating spinning and weaving.

Author Tomohiro Shibuki

Felt is a type of textile known as "non-woven" (without warp and weft), created from matted fibres that are pressed and interlocked together through a mechanical process involving heat, moisture, and friction. Warm, lightweight, and water-resistant, felt can be made from carded wool and also exists in synthetic forms, including acrylic and polyester. During the felting process, soap-soaked fibres are wetted with hot water and then rubbed and compacted by hand.

Tomohiro Shibuki, a Japanese designer and finalist at ITS 2023, covers his garments with a metaphorical layer of snow, paying homage to his hometown island of Hokkaidō, using needle-felted fabric. Traditional garment shapes are thus obscured, and boundaries are blurred, inviting us to rethink our observations.

what	creative workshop
what you will learn	the history of felt; the wool supply chain; to experiment with one's own hands using an ancient craft technique
for whom	first, second, third, fourth, and fifth-grade classes
duration	60 minutes
language	Italian, English
price (guided tour + workshop)	€14*

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Get weaving

With just two rectangles of cardboard and some coloured threads, we can create a marvellous small loom and weave on our own, navigating the warp and weft. Let's all try together to revive an ancient gesture: manual weaving with a hand loom.

This repetitive yet creative technique enhances manual skills and coordination, while allowing for creative expression after an initial phase of planning and adherence to specific rules. The choice of colours, decorative patterns, and threads will make each piece unique and personal, reflecting one's individual tastes and style.

what	creative workshop
what you will learn	to create a personal small loom; basic weaving techniques
for whom	first, second, third, fourth, and fifth-grade classes
duration	60 minutes
language	Italian, English
price (guided tour + workshop)	€14*

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Banana Nettle Crochet

Inspired by Spanish designer Silvia Acien Parrilla, who interweaves nettle and pineapple fibres to create garments in harmony with nature, this workshop will focus on making creative trimmings using natural and recycled materials.

Author Luisa De Santi

Crochet is an accessible craft that can be quickly learned with the right guidance. Using just four fingers and a thread, you can master this ancient technique, once famously practised by grandmothers making doilies and pot holders. It is celebrated in the ITS archive projects and is the focus of this hands-on creative workshop. Mistakes or unpickable knots are simply part of the process, as making and unmaking, trying and restarting are integral to learning.

Silvia Acien Parrilla honours traditional techniques with local resources and a regenerative approach, preserving the earth's resources and promoting biodiversity. She blends past and present, weaving together memories and ancestral identity. Guided by her grandmother's wisdom, she creates garments from pineapple, nettle, and banana fibres, which are entirely plant-based and dyed by hand with natural dyes from plants and bacteria, thereby promoting water conservation.

Luisa De Santi primarily employs crochet, knitting, and embroidery techniques in her work. She is a teacher of needlework techniques, creator and coordinator of collective works and creative projects, and author of educational manuals.

what	creative workshop
what you will learn	to make a cord or trim for a friendship bracelet; basic crochet techniques; use of sustainable materials and creative reuse of recycled materials
for whom	third, fourth, and fifth-grade classes
duration	60 minutes
language	Italian, English
price (guided tour + workshop)	€14*

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Scavenger Hunt

Explore ITS Arcademy with a map and pencil in hand. Along the way, you'll encounter hidden details, surprising clues, and challenging riddles that require the entire class to collaborate, solve, and uncover the museum's secrets.

Collaboration, keen observation, and a creative spirit are essential, as the museum's halls offer the perfect setting to test the group's skills. Participants will need to navigate through a wardrobe brimming with stories, a Cabinet of Curiosities, a Library filled with thousands of creative projects on fabric, paper (and even kitchen paper), horned shoes, a brick bag, and a mediaeval bestiary featuring many endangered flowers, plants, and animals. You might feel as if a dress is watching you, be tempted to taste cake shoes, or find glasses with candy-coloured temples. Only through collective creativity will participants reach the end of the trail and succeed in this unique creativity hunt.

what	adventure in the Museum
what you will learn	to work together, collaborate, and communicate to achieve a common goal; to observe carefully and exercise creativity and lateral thinking, answering questions and solving riddles
for whom	first, second, third, fourth, and fifth-grade classes
duration	60 minutes
language	Italian, English
price (guided tour + workshop)	€14*

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