

Strut Your Stuff – Mixed Media Sr. Essay

White Bengal Tiger

I've always been fascinated by the jungle and it's animals, so I chose to do the tiger.

I began with 8 white tips and shaped them into stiletto nails. I cut another nail (9th) into the shape of a circle the size of a dime and using nail glue, glued all 8 nails connecting the points together to this circle (therefore, forming a disc).

- 1) Outline the tiger in black acrylic craft paint in the center of all 8 nails using a #2 pointed brush.
- 2) Paint the outside area of the tiger using a #2 flat square brush with black acrylic craft paint just up to ¼ of an inch of the end of the nails.
- 3) Mix white and black acrylic craft paint, making a light shade of gray and shade the tigers face using a #2 flat square brush.
- 4) Use the #2 pointed brush and make the stripes of the tiger, outline his eyes, nose and mouth with black acrylic craft paint. Use the nail striper brush for detailing the lines.
- 5) Using a toothpick, add his whisker dots with black acrylic craft paint.
- 6) Mixing true pink and white acrylic craft paint, fill in the nose and ears using the #2 pointed brush.
- 7) Now, mix country blue with white acrylic craft paint making a light shade of blue and fill in the eyes. Then, outline the outer rim of the eyes using sky blue acrylic craft paint and paint the pupil black with acrylic craft paint. Again using the #2 pointed brush. I used a toothpick for the white dots in the center of the pupil.
- 8) Mixing white and black acrylic craft paint with a little water (making a darker shade of gray) and a striper brush, paint his whiskers.
- 9) Use a striper brush and white acrylic paint to add hair around the outside of the tigers face.
- 10) Again, using the striper brush and leaf green acrylic craft paint, paint a wiggly line all around the tiger in the black area to resemble an ivy stem.
- 11) Take a #2 flat square brush and leaf green acrylic paint and paint small leaves around the ivy stem as referred to above.
- 12) Use the striper brush and bright yellow acrylic paint and add small lines in the center of all the leaves. And using hunter green acrylic paint and the striper brush, paint one side of the outside of the leaves for more depth.
- 13) Using the #2 flat square brush and tan acrylic craft paint, paint the edges of all the nails ¼ inch wide. I used bronze nail enamel and painted a few dots within the tan area. Then using the #2 pointed brush and black acrylic paint, I outlined the bronze dots and added a few more little black dots in-between for the leopard print.
- 14) Coat each nail using 1 coat of finishing gel and cure the nails.
- 15) Use nail glue and an orangewood stick to apply rhinestones around the rim between the black and leopard print.

For the presentation photo, I placed the tiger nails in the center of an ivy plant and added a leopard print frame with MGI Photo Suite.

I used a Sony Cyber-shot digital camera with a macro lens.