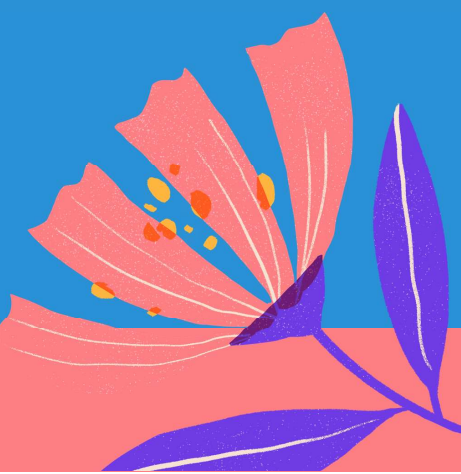




watercolour wax relief



WHALEARTS°



What is wax relief?

Wax relief is a creative technique which uses either wax crayons, oil pastels or wax candles with watercolours or watered-down paints to create a contrasted effect. The watercolours resist the wax or oils in the other materials making it so when you paint over your wax marks they emerge underneath.

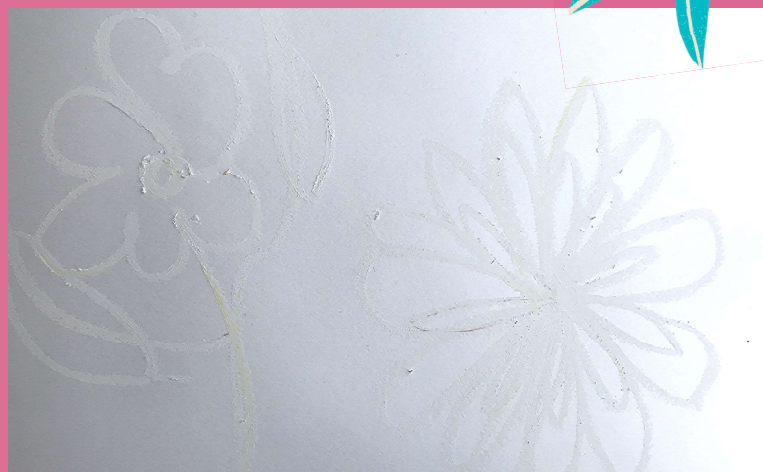
What you'll need:

- Paper
- Wax crayons, a wax candle or oil pastels
- Watercolours, paints or natural paints like coffee
- Paint brush



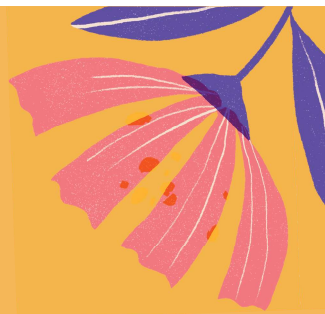
Step 1:

Using your wax crayons or oil pastels, begin to draw some shapes, or a picture with either just the white or different colours. I've chosen to do some abstract flowers to represent spring and the fabulous weather we're having at the moment!



Adding colour!

I began just drawing with the white crayon but I've decided to add some colour by using the other coloured crayons too.



Step 2:

Let's think of the background! Would you like to keep it plain and add detail with the watercolours, or would you like to add some detail with the wax crayons? I'm going to add some different coloured dots to add texture and depth.

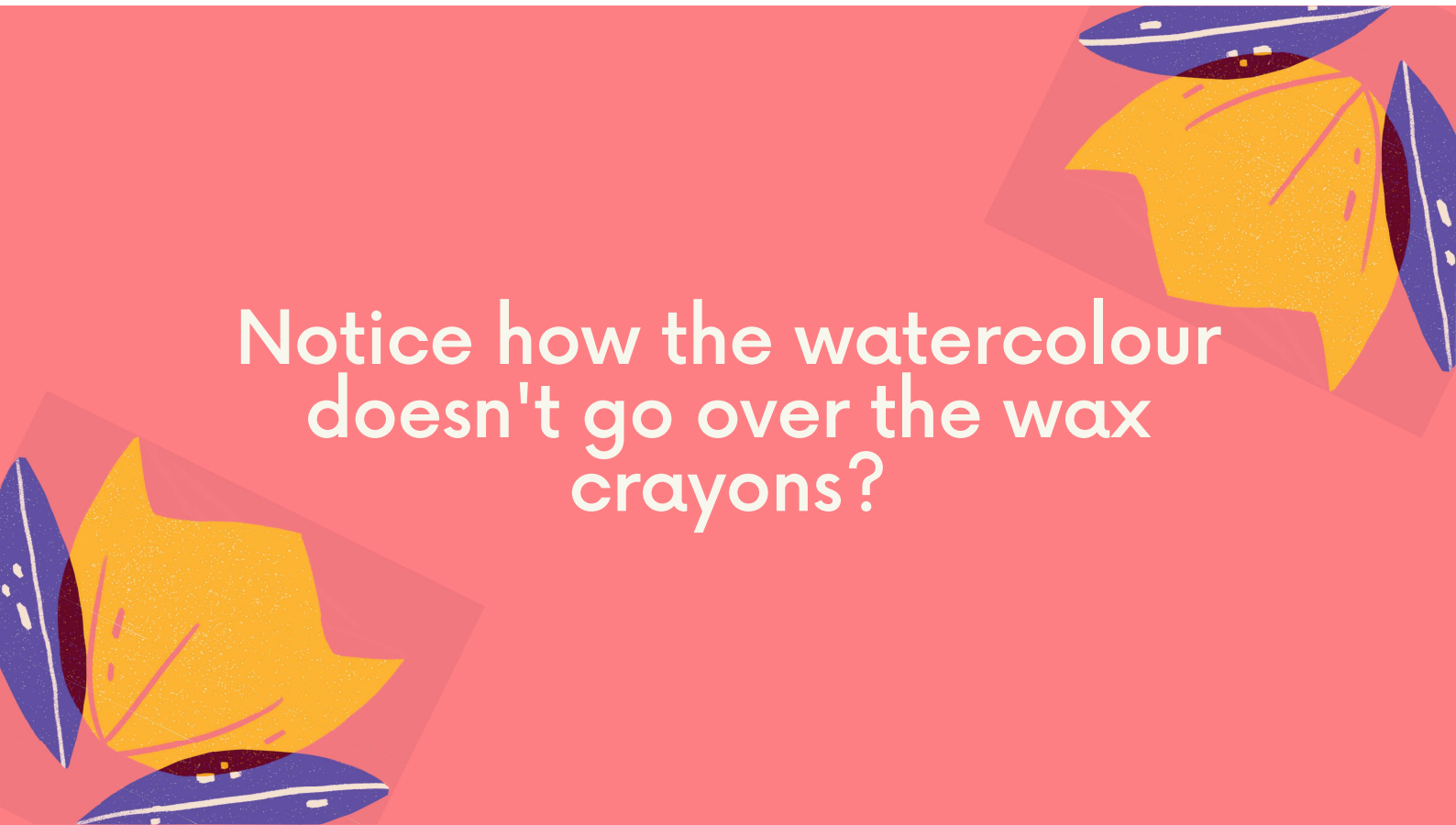


Step 3:

Now for some paint! If you're using regular paints, water them down before you use them. They need to be watery to get the desired effect! If you're using watercolour then make sure you use a lot of water too!



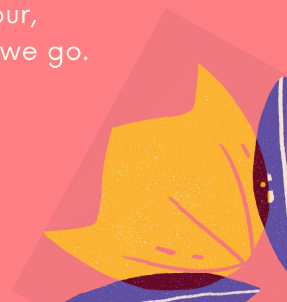
Notice how the watercolour
doesn't go over the wax
crayons?





The background

After painting the first flower, I think it's best we paint the background now. I'm going to go with blue! So, fill your entire background with colour, noticing how the paint resists the crayons as we go.





Step 4:

Now for the flowers! Continue painting the flowers, leaves and any other detail you've got on your image to finish it off. Mine is quite abstract, but you can add quite a bit of detail with the paints if you like.

