## Project Name

Synthetic Scratch-and-Sniff

## Featured Image

![Image](image-url)

## Project Description

*Living with Scents* explores olfactory design and suggests ways that fragrances can play a larger role in our lives. [Emerging Objects’](#) 3D printed coffee pot releases coffee bean scents, [Carlas Bengston’s](#) perfumes mimic the pheromones of lizards and bees, and [Lizzie Ostrom’s](#) *Ode* reminds Alzheimer’s patients to eat with fragrant food fumes.

This project invites participants to integrate scent into their own artwork while revisiting the scratch-and-sniff stickers popular in the 1970s and 80s.

## Recommended Age Level
Recommended for ages 4+ with adult supervision.

## Materials

- For each paint color/scent:
  - ¾ teaspoon Jell-O powder
  - 1 tablespoon of white, liquid glue
  - 1 teaspoon of water
  - Small bowl or cup
- Crayon
- Cardstock
- Paintbrush
- *Optional:* Spoon

## Instructions

- **Pour** one teaspoon of water into each bowl.
- **Pour** one tablespoon of glue into each bowl.
- **Add** ¾ teaspoon of Jell-O powder to each bowl.
- Use the paintbrush or a spoon to thoroughly **mix** ingredients.
- Use the crayon to **draw** the outline of your design onto the cardstock. The crayon lines will help the paint stay in place.
  - **TIP:** If using a white crayon, **hold** the cardstock up to the light to see the crayon lines.
- Use the paintbrush to **paint** within the crayon lines.
- **Clean** the brush with water between colors.
- Let dry completely (1-3 days)
- Revisit your artwork and **scratch-and-sniff** the paint!

## Creative prompts for more...
• Test a nose! Ask a friend or family member to smell your painting when dry. Can they guess each color’s scent correctly?

• Turn the project into a card! *Living with Scents* explores how certain fragrances can remind us of others and how sharing scents can make us feel more connected to each other. Write a message on the other side of the cardstock and give it to a loved one!

## Related Resources

• *Living with Scents* featured olfactory artist, Peter de Cupere created a series of Scratch & Sniff Oil paintings. Read more about the series and learn about olfactory design in MCD’s *Living with Scents Virtual Speaker Series* featuring Peter de Cupere, Lizzie Ostrom, Clara Muller, and Dr. Danielle Reed.

• From stickers to t-shirts – learn about the history of Scratch-and-Sniff commodities in Caity Weaver’s New York Times’s article *What in the World is a $590 Scratch-and-Sniff T-shirt Doing in 2020?*