

5 Advantages of Anatomical Body Painting in Medical Education

1



Colour promotes retention of knowledge

The use of bold colours helps those using body paints retain the anatomical information. The colour is highly memorable and promotes subsequent recall.

2



It can help develop empathy.

Using body painting helps the learner develop empathy with their human canvas. The painter and canvas appreciate what it feels like to undress and be examined but in a safe learning environment, out with the clinical context.

3



It helps demonstrate function.

By painting muscles, they can be visualised as they move. Using paint helps demonstrate both form and function, not easily achieved using cadaveric material.

4



It provides a link to future clinical practice.

Its use in anatomy is a great way to link anatomy and clinical skills. It provides a safe environment to develop professional skills such as communication and examination skills.

5



It is an engaging way to learn.

Body painting engages learners as it uses colour, it kinaesthetic and fun! Its use in anatomy is often a welcomed break from library or laboratory-based study.