

1st Grade LWSD Art Docent Project: Mixed Media Pumpkins

Element of Art: Form

Objective: to create a seasonal mixed media scene that shows students how different media can interact and extends their artwork from 2D into 3D.

Artistic Influence: American mixed media painter and art instructor Juliette Crane



Elements of Art:

Form

Materials:

- **Construction or watercolor paper** (9" x 12" in white, cream, or another light color)
- **White oil pastels**
- **Watercolor paint** (especially orange, yellow, blue, green and brown)
- **Medium to large, round paint brushes**
- **Scissors**
- **Glue sticks**
- **Paper towels or baby wipes**

Instructions and notes:

1. This lesson requires some preparation:
 - Someone will need to take a photo of each child in the class.
 - The photos should be printed out ahead of time, with the length of the child's chin to crown of the head measuring roughly 2.2 inches.
 - Have the paper bats cut out of black construction paper ahead of time. The children will not have enough time to do this during the lesson.
 - Also, precut some strips of green construction paper for pumpkin vines. Students may cut more, if time allows.

Note: Page 3 of this document contains a template to make stencils for cutting out bats.
2. When looking at Juliette Crane's mixed media art, point out the layering of pastels with paint and patterned paper, (mixed media). Her art is not really 3D, but there are areas heavy with raised textures.
3. The lesson steps are well explained in the slides.
4. Make sure that the students use a thick layer of white oil pastel for their pumpkin contour lines.
5. Early finishers can decorate their bat wings with oil pastel or help start the clean-up process.
6. Ask students to fold up their bat wings first and then only glue down the body of the bat. (Double-sided tape can be used in place of glue for this step.)
7. Vines should only be glued down at one end, so that they curl up from the paper.
8. If watercolor paint does not dry by the end of the lesson, you may staple or glue the bats at a later time.
9. Distribute parent information page for students to take home, and print an extra page to post on your bulletin board with the finished art. See following page.
10. Please complete the brief [LWSD Art Docent Program Feedback Survey](#) for this lesson.
11. Thank you for supporting our elementary students' visual arts education.

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The goal of this 1st grade lesson was to create a seasonal mixed media scene that shows students how different media can interact and extends their artwork from 2D into 3D.



WA State Visual Arts Standard

Interpret art by categorizing subject matter and identifying the characteristics of form.
(VA: Re8.1.1)

In this mixed media art lesson taught by volunteer art docents, students got to experience different art media worked into the same project: oil pastel, watercolor paint, paper cutouts, and photographs. The inclusion of paper cutouts allowed them to add a fun three-dimensional element to their work.

This mixture of whimsy and different media was inspired by American artist Juliette Crane's whimsical mixed media paintings shown above, on either side of a pumpkin project sample.

Additionally, the seasonal theme invited students to celebrate fun aspects of autumn in our region.

The development of this Lake Washington School District art docent lesson was made possible by a grant from the Lake Washington Schools Foundation.

Print this page on standard 8.5"x 11" letter paper to make stencils that you can use to cut out consistently sized bats that will be just over 8 inches long when unfolded. Make sure to cut the head large enough that students can glue their photograph onto it securely. Some students really like having long bat ears stick out over the top of their photos.





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