

Grade 2 Project: Community Collage

Element of Art: Space

Objective: to understand the difference between foreground and background and the impact of shapes in a space.

Artistic Influence: Jacob Lawrence's *Library*, 1978



Element of Art:

Space

(the area above, below, around and within an artwork which creates the illusion of depth on a flat surface)

Materials:

- **Construction Paper in a variety of bold colors, also including white, gray or black for the background**
- **Glue sticks**
- **Scissors**
- **Pencils**

Instructions and notes:

1. Study the paintings in the Powerpoint beforehand so you can bring some of your own insights about them.
2. Briefly explain what collage is, as well as the artistic element of **space** that will be discussed in this lesson. Collage is art created by putting together shapes and forms with cut paper and glue.
3. Today's goal is to study space and learn what happens when shapes are placed at different locations within the space.
4. Go through the steps in the PowerPoint slide deck.
5. Remind students that they get to decide what part of their community (an indoor or outdoor scene) they create today, using Jacob Lawrence's art as inspiration. You may need to help the students narrow down their ideas.
6. Remind students to keep it simple. Lawrence used a lot of detail, not in depicting faces, but in the amount of objects or figures within his paintings. Students only have 1 hour and need to concentrate on picking a few shapes for the background and a few shapes for the foreground and keep details to a minimum unless they have time at the end.
7. **Optional:** 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 handout on following page.

Analogous Color Hearts

The goal of this 2nd grade lesson was to discover analogous colors on the color wheel and how they add beauty and richness to a painting.



WA State Visual Arts Standard (VA:Cn10.1.2)

Create works of art about events in home, school, or community life.

In this art lesson taught by volunteer art docents, students learned about **space** which is the area above, below, around and within an artwork which creates the illusion of depth on a flat surface.

Jacob Lawrence's art, which often portrays scenes from his community, was the inspiration for this project. Lawrence is known for paintings depicting the struggles of African Americans from the 1940s-1990s. He taught art at the University of Washington until his death in 2000. He was a master of composition and use of space to create the illusion of depth in a painting.

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