

## Art Matters Lesson Plan

### Art Play Lesson #3:

### Pattern & Colored Paper Collage

Shelly Korte & Vashti B Moss

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#### Tools

scissors (optional)  
Table cover (optional)  
Heavy cardboard

#### Materials

Colored paper (tissue paper, magazine pages, and/ or construction paper)  
glue stick  
plain white paper (cardstock, mixed media paper, or printer paper)  
Wet wipes

Inspired by: Ramona Sakiestewa, contemporary New Mexican Hopi American tapestry and paper artist. *Facets/4*, dyed and woven wool. 50in x 90in, currently in the Common Ground collection in Albuquerque Museum.

<https://ramonasakiestewa.com/artwork/>

#### Set Up

1. Cover work area with tarp or spare paper sheets
2. Each artist will have 2-3 sheets of white paper, a selection of colored paper, and a glue stick

#### Instructions

##### Part 1: Relax and Share

- a. As a group, take a deep breath through your nose and exhale or sigh out of your mouth. Do this two more times as a group. As you relax your shoulders, your face, and your mind, come into the present moment.

- b. Check in with how you're feeling and give it a shape and color. If you're in a group, go around and give everyone a chance to say this out loud.

## **Part 2: Warm-up/Illustrating Words with Shape and Pattern**

- a. Take a deep breath. Relax your shoulders, your arms, your hands.  
Remember to pause and do this periodically as you work.
- b. Students artists will tear (or cut) paper into shapes. Considering color, the grain/tearability of the paper. Notice how it feels to tear the paper. Notice how it feels to change tear direction and method. You can try tearing paper against a cardboard straight edge.
- c. Make piles of the torn paper.
- d. Lay torn/cut papers out on plain white papers. No gluing, just lay papers out as a word is called out by the instructor. Possible Warm up words: Flat. Hill. Circular. Diamond, Symmetry. Dance. Echo. Migrate. Butterfly. Galaxy.
- e. Share with one another what you made and what you observed in the process. After each piece, remove the loose papers and start again to lay out papers inspired by a word.

## **Part 3: Paper Tapestry Collage: Inspired by Ramona Sakiestewa**

- a. Think back to Part 1 and/or start from a new place of inspiration.
- b. Things to consider: color, pattern, repetition, shape, size/scale, layering, positive and negative space, symmetry and asymmetry.
  - Is your design an illustration of a landscape, an emotion, an animal, an idea?
  - Begin tearing up paper shapes and laying them on your piece of white paper. Play around with the design before you glue it down.
  - Do you want to create a solid color background? A border?

- Occasionally pause, take a breath and hold your work up in front of you or rotate it to gain a different perspective.

### **Questions to Consider as you work**

1. Do I prefer symmetry or asymmetry right now?
2. Am I creating a representational or abstract design?
3. Am I breathing, taking a moment to pause and look at my work, and letting go of 'shoulds'?

### **Clean Up**

1. Clean up all paper scraps. If they are usable for another project you may keep them. If not, recycle or throw away.
2. Cap all glue sticks, wipe off if sticky.
3. Put all unused/reusable materials in the art bin,
4. Wipe down the tables if any glue or tiny scraps or marks are present.
5. Keep your artwork! Even if you don't love it, it can be used later as book pages, journal covers, and shared with others.

### **Closing:**

Take a deep breath. Use this lesson anytime you want to express your feelings and thoughts directly - it's a creative way to express complex ideas in simple ways. At the end, please share your pieces with each other. Hold your piece in front of you so others can see. Share: What did you discover? What did you enjoy? What do you like about other peoples' work?

Consider taping these up so others can see it.

Thank you for joining us to make art today!