


THE WORLD IS NOT FLAT!
ART IDEAS WITH DIMENSION AND
TEXTURE FOR PRESCHOOL

Barbara Lynn barbara.s.lynn@gmail.com



Workshop Sequence

1. Stages of development of art in children
2. Ideas to try with your group.
3. Benefits of using dimensions and textures with children.

Developmental Stages of Art

- ◆ 1. Scribbling stage-14-18 mos. till about 30-36 mos.
- ◆ 2. Child interested in "process" – will paint and paint or scribble just because they enjoy the feelings it provides them (joy, mastery)
- ◆ 3. NO product intended (may not look like anything at the end)

Pre-Schematic Stage

- Around age 3-4 yrs.
- Shapes begin to emerge in the midst of the art
- Are not necessarily pre-planned
- Child will say, "Look, I made a square!" afterwards

Schematic Stage

- Ages 4-6 years
- Child decides in advance what to produce or draw (a tree, the sun, the self, etc.)
- And begins to look realistic
- Art is more thoughtful (not just process only)

Two Options

- 1. Creation Station-Open during centers-self-selected (Re-stock frequently)-Keep safety in mind as children innovate
- 2. Small group art assignment tied to theme of study (all participate in small group rotation)

Paper folding

- 1. Fan-Draw a picture, then alternate folds at 1 inch intervals
- 2. Draw a picture on construction paper or cardstock. Ask child if he/ she wants it folded into a rectangle or triangle (forming a rectangular or triangular prism).
- 3. Chinese lantern. Fold construction paper in half. Make black vertical lines up the fold within 1 inch of the top. Child draws picture on both halves, then cuts the black lines. Unfold, then form into a roll.
- 4. Newspaper Hat-Fold a newspaper section into a triangle at the top (fold side up), then fold up the open section at the bottom. Staple sides and decorate.
- 5. Sentence Strip Hat-decorate a sentence strip and roll, staple to fit head.

Collage

- Use stiff paper (cardstock or construction paper)
- Allow child to use a brush to stroke on glue and add items:
 - Yarn
 - Cupcake liners
 - Coffee filters
 - Mesh net from fruit
 - Wrapping paper scraps
 - Easter grass
 - Doilies
 - Buttons
 - Feathers
 - Ribbon

Mixed Paint and Collage

- Use stiff paper
 - Add glue to the paint
 - Use a brush or gadget (to make prints)
 - Be sure to use only 2 of the 3 primary colors (or brown may result)
 - After painting/ gadget printing, add texture (Easter grass, feathers, yarn, mesh, doilies, Buttons)
- Printing devices include:
Cardboard egg carton sections (Styrofoam will not work.)
Laundry lids
Forks

Painting with objects



- Use stiff paper (cardstock, construction)
- Add a shoe box or large box lid, tape paper
- Paint with cars, marbles, golf balls
- Remember-two primary colors only to avoid muddy paint mix
- Adult supervision important

Option Two-Well-Stocked Creation Station

- Rotate and replenish supplies:
 - Paper towel and toilet paper rolls
 - Blue painters' tape
 - Tissue paper
 - Gift wrap scraps
 - Pom-pom balls
 - Washed egg cartons, cut into different size sections
 - Feathers
 - Sacks
 - Cupcake liners
 - Coffee Filters
 - Straws
 - Pipe cleaners
 - Craft sticks
 - Easter grass
 - (Scissors and glue)

Benefits of Open-Ended Art

- 1. Creative expression and innovative thinking
- 2. Springboard for oral language discussion
- 3. Release of strong emotions and stress reduction (relaxation)
- 4. Provides sensory response to area studied in the curriculum(aids in memory of subject matter)
- 5. Fine motor practice and eye-hand coordination (needed for later writing skills)
- 6. Allows for concept development (shapes, texture, dimensions)