

1. All About Me Portraits

Students draw self-portraits using mirrors and a wide range of skin-tone crayons or paints. Include symbols that represent family, hobbies, or favorite foods.

2. Texas Symbols Collage

Create collages using cut paper to represent Texas symbols such as the bluebonnet, longhorn, armadillo, or the Texas flag.

3. Family Quilts (Paper Quilting)

Students design a paper “quilt square” showing something important about their family or heritage, then combine them into a class quilt.

4. Community Helper Murals

Small groups paint murals showing community helpers (teachers, firefighters, nurses, construction workers) they see in their own neighborhoods.

5. Music-Inspired Art

Listen to blues, jazz, mariachi, or Tejano music and create abstract art that matches the rhythm and mood using lines and colors.

6. African Pattern Prints

Introduce simple African textile patterns (like kente-inspired designs) and have students create repeating patterns with crayons or stamps.

7. Mexican Folk Art Animals

Create brightly colored animals inspired by alebrijes using paper, markers, and patterned details (no cultural symbols copied directly).

8. Weather in Texas Paintings

Paint scenes showing Texas weather—sun, storms, wind, or heat—using texture techniques like sponges or cotton balls.

9. Storybook Illustration

Students illustrate a scene from a favorite book featuring diverse characters or write and illustrate their own short story.

10. Neighborhood Maps

Draw simple maps of students’ neighborhoods showing houses, parks, churches, stores, and streets they know.

11. Paper Weaving Mats

Create paper weavings using bright colors, tying into cultural traditions of weaving found in many cultures.

12. Faces and Feelings Masks

Students design masks showing emotions using shapes, colors, and facial expressions to explore social-emotional learning.

13. Nature Art from the Playground

Collect leaves or small natural items (if allowed) and use them to create texture rubbings or nature collages.

14. Dream Job Drawings

Students draw themselves as adults in jobs they dream of having, emphasizing pride, confidence, and future goals.

15. Celebrations Around Us

Create artwork showing celebrations students know—birthdays, family gatherings, holidays—focusing on joy, color, and community.