



## DRAWING EXPLORATION

- On the first day of art the students had a chance to experiment with the tools available in the drawing station. They rotated around the room and tried the different tools at each table.
- Each student got a worksheet with the pictures and names of each tool and a space to draw for each one.
- The tools included: pencils, colored pencils, color sticks, oil pastels, markers, crayons, and paint sticks.

## SKETCHBOOKS

- New this year: ALL grade levels have sketchbooks!
- 4th graders got folders with prongs inside. After they designed their covers, we added hole punched paper on the inside. This makes it really easy to add more paper as the year goes on.
- For the first 15 minutes or so of each art class, students draw in their sketchbooks (or continue their cover design). It is a good warm up to start thinking about art and has made the transition into the art studio a little easier.
- After the 15 minutes is up, students put away their books and gather on the carpet for the day's discussion/lesson.

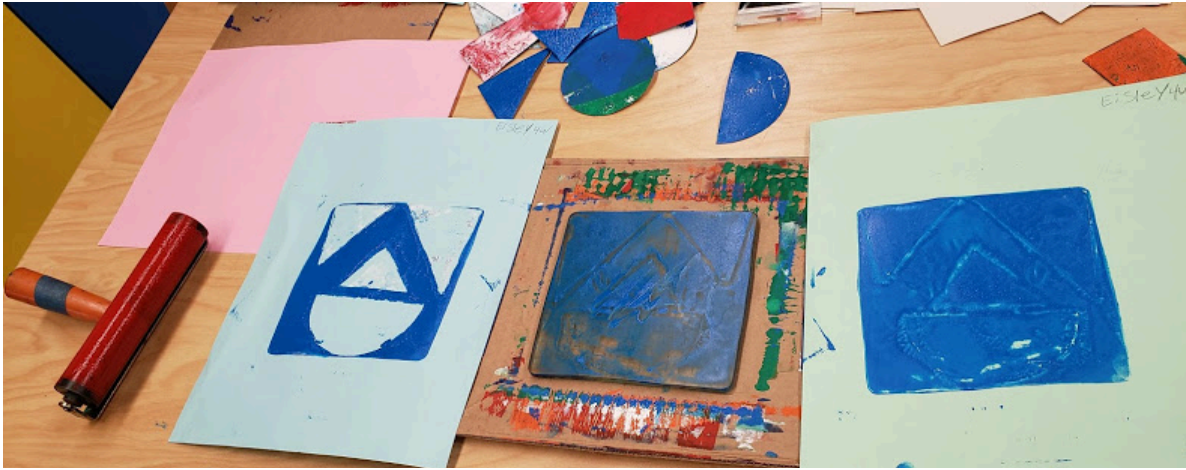
## COLLAGE EXPLORATION

- For an introduction to Collage, students got a worksheet with boxes of different collage techniques. They learned where to find the materials and how to do each technique to fill in their sheet.
- Techniques included were:
  - Overlapping
  - Using a hole puncher
  - Using "fancy scissors" to cut
  - Using tissue paper
  - Cutting 2 or more shapes that are exactly the same.
  - Cutting a positive shape and a negative shape.
  - Drawing something and cutting it out.
- Once students completed the techniques, they were free to make a collage of their choice or return to drawing.



## GELLI PRINTING

- For printmaking this year, the students learned how to make monotypes with a gelli plate.
- After watching a demo by Mrs. Tague, all students had a turn to try gelli printing.
- Look here to see a video demonstration as well as videos about printmaking artists:  
[https://irvingartclass.blogspot.com/p/printmaking\\_27.html](https://irvingartclass.blogspot.com/p/printmaking_27.html)



## CHOICE IN ART

- Artists make choices and decisions about their artwork including what the subject is and what materials to use. Once a station is introduced, there are “choice” days in art where students are allowed to work with the materials from the station(s) of their choice to make artwork that is important to them.
- This is a great opportunity for students to create their own artistic problems and think critically and creatively to come up with solutions.
- This also teaches students that their ideas and choices are valued and worth expressing.

## FIELD TRIP

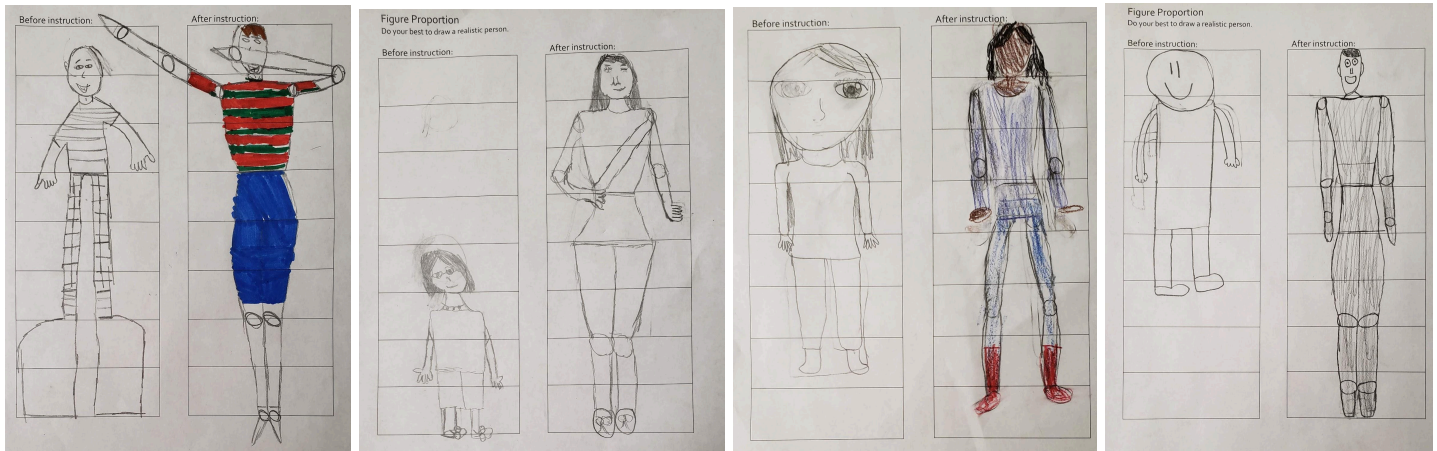
- On December 5th, in collaboration with Spanish, we took a field trip to the National Museum of Mexican Art in Pilsen.
- We took a guided tour of the Dia de los Muertos exhibit and also participated in an art workshop in which students got to make their own Catrina/Catrin.





## FIGURE DRAWING

- One of the art goals for 4th grade is learning how to draw a human figure with correct proportions. This is a very challenging task and really takes practice and effort to draw people realistically.
- Students did a simple pre and post assessment to see how their drawing skills improved after a short lesson on figure proportion.
- They first drew a person on their own, without any instruction. Then, after a demonstration and class discussion, they drew another person applying the knowledge they'd gained. It was really amazing to see the growth in each and every student!



## W.O.W. (Wonderful, Original, Work of art) PROJECTS

- WOW projects are designed by students, they are supposed to choose something they are interested in or a technique they'd like to work on to make a work of art that has personal meaning.
- Students had the opportunity to work in Drawing, Collage, and/or Printmaking stations for their projects, some also incorporated Origami into their work.
- Click here to see the 4th grade WOW projects on Artsonia:  
<https://www.artsonia.com/museum/gallery.asp?project=1884021>

## WEAVING

- Weaving is first introduced to students in 1st grade where they learn the basic technique, over-under-over-under, and weave with yarn on a small loom. In 2nd and 3rd grades, some students chose to work on weaving again but it is open as a choice, not a whole class project.
- In 4th grade, students work on a larger loom and are challenged to incorporate more complicated patterns and designs into their weaving such as a closed-slot weave (two colors next to each other), alternating colors to make vertical stripes, and adding rya as a 3D element to their weaving.

