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Clay Christmas Ornaments



Essential Question(s): Which shapes, patterns, and colors will you use to create your ornament?

Standard(s): **CCSS.Math.Content.K.G.A.2** Correctly name shapes regardless of their orientations or overall size.

CCSS.Math.Content.K.G.B.5 Model shapes in the world by building shapes from components (e.g., sticks and clay balls) and drawing shapes.

VA.5.K.3 Identify basic colors

VA.5.K.2 Investigate basic shapes (e.g., circle, square, triangle)

VA.5.K.5 Investigate patterns

Lesson Objective(s): At the end of this activity, students will have gained a better understanding of shapes, colors, and patterns.

Overview: The purpose of this assignment is to educate students on a variety of different

shapes, colors, and patterns, while also giving students a chance to be creative and create a personalized ornament that can be taken home and cherished forever.

Assignment: Here are the steps you should follow to make your ornament:

1. Get one table spoon of clay.
2. Roll the clay into a ball.
3. Sit the ball of clay on the table and place the palm of your hand on top of it and smash it down.
4. Spread the clay out evenly using the palm of your hand.
5. Select the cookie cutter of your choice.
6. Place the cookie cutter onto the flat sheet of clay and mash it down into the clay.
7. Peel away the excess clay that is around the cookie cutter.
8. Carefully remove the cookie cutter from the clay.
9. Quietly gather the materials you will need to decorate your ornament, such as: paint, jewels, stamps, beads, etc. (Don't get too much! You can always come back and get more if you need it.)
10. Decorate your ornament using a variety of colors, shapes, and patterns.
11. Make a hole somewhere in your ornament using the hard end of your paint brush so that we can tie a ribbon on it and you can take it home to hang on your tree after it is dry!

Assignment Title Rubric

CATEGORY	3	2	1	0	Score
Time/Effort	Class time was used wisely. Much time and effort went into the planning and design of the ornament.	Class time was used wisely. Student could have put in more time and effort.	Class time was not always used wisely, but student did complete the assignment.	Class time was not used wisely and the student put in little to no effort.	
Color Choices	Choice and application of color shows an advanced knowledge of color relationships.	Choice and application of color shows some knowledge of color relationships.	Choice and application of color shows little knowledge of color relationships.	Student needs to work on learning color relationships and using that knowledge in his/her work.	
Creativity	Student has taken the technique being studied and applied it in a way that is totally his/her own. The student's personality/voice comes through.	Student has taken the technique being studied and has used source material as a starting place. The student showed some personality but not much.	There is little evidence of creativity, but the student has done the assignment.	Student showed no creativity or individuality at in their artwork. Student did not meet the requirements of the assignment.	
Design/Composition	Student applies design principles (such as unity, contrast, balance, movement, direction, emphasis, and center of interest) with great skill.	Student applies design principles (such as unity, contrast, balance, movement, direction, emphasis, and center of interest) with fair skill.	Student tries to apply design principles (such as unity, contrast, balance, movement, direction, emphasis, and center of interest) but the overall result is not pleasing.	The student does not appear to be able to apply most design principles to his/her own work.	
Use of materials	Student typically keeps painting materials and area clean and protected without reminders. The student shows great respect for the materials and his fellow students.	Student typically adequately cleans materials and work area at the end of the session without reminder, but the area may be messy during the work session. Student shows respect for materials and fellow students.	Student adequately cleans and takes care of materials if reminded. Occasional spills and messy work area may be seen. Shows some respect for materials and fellow students.	Student deliberately misuses materials AND/OR does not adequately clean materials or area when reminded. Shows little respect for materials or fellow students.	