



4-H Club Sample Agenda - Mosaics!

Agenda Outline

WELCOME

Before the meeting, put a piece of easel or large butcher paper on the wall and draw the outline of a four-leaf clover or other simple shape. Have markers on hand (preferably different colors). As people arrive, have them write on the flower two or three words that come to mind when they think of art.

MEETING PURPOSE

Review the current youth [leadership structure](#) and learn about mosaics!

BUSINESS (10-15 MINUTES)

Remember if too much business is planned, members might not come back! Below is just a sample. See other [optional business items](#) on our Leading a 4-H Club web page.

- [4-H Pledge](#)
- Roll Call: Share the words you wrote in the welcome activity!
- Recap what we did last time
- Review current youth leadership structure. What's working? What's not?
- Celebrate any member accomplishments!

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY - [Mosaics!](#) (30 MINUTES)

[RECREATIONAL ACTIVITY](#) (10-15 MINUTES)

[REFLECTION](#) (5 minutes)

- What are some [4-H projects](#) you could do related to what you learned today?
- How did we [live out the 4-H Pledge](#) today?

REFRESHMENT IDEA

- Veggie platter





Educational Activity - Mosaics!

4-H project area

Crafts and Fine Arts

Grade level

All grades

What it is

Explore the art form of mosaics by creating one using potential trash items.



Image: The S.C.R.A.P. Gallery

Why it matters

Because the mosaic is an art form that anyone can try with immediate satisfying results, it can help even the most reluctant person experience the joy of creating. AND, using items that would normally be trashed saves just that much more space in our landfills!

Getting started

Time: 30 minutes

Materials:

- Means of playing first 1 min. of this [Trash to Treasure video](#)
- [Mosaic template](#) - 1 per person
- Elmer's glue - 1 bottle for every 3 people
- Scissors - 1 for every 3 people
- Writing utensils - 1 for every 3 people
- Paper plates - 1 per person
- Random mosaic materials from potential trashable items. Suggestions:
 - Cereal boxes or junk mail cut into small pieces (the more color the better)
 - Stiff plastic bags (such as from petfood or rice) cut into pieces (color better)
 - Milk cap rings and bottle caps of different sizes and colors
 - Plastic bottles cut into pieces
 - Twisty ties
 - Buttons
 - Empty orange fruit mesh bags
 - Empty dental floss containers or tape rolls
 - Pen caps and/or dead pens



- Plastic forks, spoons, knives

Prep for meeting in person:

- Meet with youth leaders ahead of time to prepare them to assist you in guiding their peers through the activities.
- Arrange mosaic materials in piles/containers according to color.
- Print out enough copies of the [Mosaic template](#) so each person has a copy.

Prep for meeting virtually:

- Set up the Zoom meeting ahead of time and email the link to the members.
- Email reminders about the virtual meeting. Include the Zoom link and materials list.

Background

Mosaics are a very old art form that's been around for thousands of years and has been used in many different cultures. The oldest known mosaics date back about 5000 years to Mesopotamia (today, that area includes Iraq, Kuwait, parts of Iran, Syria and Turkey) but were also developed separately in the Americas by the Mayan culture between about the year 250 and 950 CE. Mosaics are also an important part of Islamic art because of how the geometric forms can encourage spiritual contemplation.¹ Mosaics use small pieces of stone, pottery, glass, or really any material, to make up patterns or pictures on any surface—flat or 3 dimensional. It's a bit like painting without the paint. The mosaic's use of objects instead of paint provides it different possibilities as an art form because it can add dimension and texture to the art in a different way.

How to do it

1. Ask youth what they know about mosaics. Use the background information to fill in their gaps in knowledge. Then explain that we're going to experience mosaic art ourselves by using items that would normally be trashed as a way to reuse them.
2. Play the first 1 minute of this [video to inspire creative use of trash items](#) in the mosaic art (If you've used the [4-H Themed Agenda on Plastics](#), this is a good time to help youth make that connection).
3. Pass out the provided [Mosaic template](#), the glue, scissors, paper plates, and writing utensils.
4. Have youth write their name on their template and let them know they can draw their own outline on the other side of their paper if they wish.
5. Show them the collection of mosaic materials you've provided and explain where they came from. Emphasize the importance of reusing materials—this is their opportunity to try reusing them in a creative way! Then ask youth what shapes, and textures they see. What could they use these shapes and textures for (hint: what do they remind you of)?
6. Explain that though you've given them a sun, their sun doesn't have to be yellow...they could fill their sun with anything they want—maybe make a scene or pattern of something else

¹ KidWorldCitizen. (2018, August 11). [Islamic art lesson for kids: A look at Arabic tiles](#). KidWorldArt.org.



within their sun, such as what “lights up” their lives. Or they could just fill up their sun however the spirit moves them.

7. Explain the next few steps before having them try it:
 - Have them come up with their plate and collect the items they think they’ll use to start. They can come back up whenever they need to.
 - To make their mosaic, they’ll glue the items on their design one at a time (don’t put glue all over it all at once, as it’ll dry before you have a chance to fill it).
 - Make sure to fill all the white spaces of the circle (the center of the sun), as well as all the black lines (the outline of the circle, and the sun’s rays). This may mean you need to cut some pieces smaller to fill up those tiny spaces. The more paper underneath you fill in, the better your mosaic will look. If time, you can also fill up the background.
8. Get gluing!
9. Share mosaics and talk about what you did!
 - What items did you decide to use for your mosaic? Why?
 - Why did you decide on the colors you chose?
 - What textures or shapes did you use? What do these represent to you?
 - We made a flat mosaic—on a piece of paper. But many mosaics are placed on 3-dimensional objects, like a park bench or the outside of a trash can, or a sidewalk. Where else could you make a mosaic? What would your mosaic depict?
10. On the clover that everyone covered in words as they were coming in, have youth add some color to it using the rest of the mosaic materials you brought in. To do this, you’ll need to place the easel/butcher paper down on a table so that the objects don’t slip down before the glue can dry. As they’re doing this, ask them what other words come to mind when they think of art, now that they’ve had a chance to experience making some of their own.

Recreation Ideas

Mosaic relay: You need wall space for this. Split the group into equal teams. Have scraps of junk mail cut into pieces ready in piles—one for each team. Give each team some tape (able to stick to the wall without harming it, such as masking tape). On your signal, have each team race to use the paper scraps to create a picture on the wall of a tree. Only one person from each team may be at the wall at a time, but team members held back may prepare the tape in the meantime. First team to complete a tree with at least a trunk and five branches wins.

Nature mosaic scavenger hunt: Prepare a list of nature items that can be found in your area (acorns, leaves, pebbles, twigs, feathers...though nothing pulled off a live plant or animal). Have youth gather as much as they can in 10 minutes and bring back the items to create a group nature mosaic.

Additional Resources

Free printable mosaic patterns: <https://crafts.lovetoknow.com/mosaic-patterns>



More on the history of mosaics: <https://www.worldhistory.org/Mosaic/>

Make mosaic tiles from recycled CDs: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iU8mqdv5i1c>

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Mosaic template

