

Mini Infinity Pumpkin Rooms Art Literacy Project

Inspired by Yayoi Kusama

Students will create a reflective room inspired piece of artwork. They will use clay to create a pumpkin, use Sharpies to decorate it in the style of Kusama, and place it in a reflective space.



Vocabulary

Installation Art – art that is designed to fill a space and transform it.

Supplies:

2 pieces Reflective Cardstock - side walls + bottom	Crayola Model Magic Clay
Colorful Sharpies	White masking tape
Clay tools	Metal brads (for mounting)
Hole puncher (for mounting)	Metal prong fastener (for mounting)

Setup notes

Cover desks with a placemat.

Precut tape for infinity boxes - 5 pieces per student.

For younger grades, volunteers may want to pre-fold/hole punch the “side wall”.

The Project

1. Hand out packages of model magic and let students squish the clay to warm it up. The clay will soften up as it warms up from being handled.
2. Students should pinch off a small marble-sized piece of clay to become the pumpkin stem - set aside.
3. Roll the remaining clay into a ball, then flatten the top and bottom of their ball slightly by gently pushing down onto the table.
4. Using clay tools, push the metal tip gently into the clay to create the lines down the pumpkin.

5. Create the pumpkin stem and add to the top of the pumpkin.
6. Use sharpies to create dots to color/decorate the pumpkin in the style of Yayoi Kusama.
7. Make the infinity room:
 1. Fold the “side wall” (rectangle) piece of reflective cardstock in half.
 2. Punch one hole in the fold, about ½ inch from the top; this will be for the brad to attach the infinity room to the black mounting paper.
 3. Use white masking tape to secure the side walls to the bottom piece of cardstock.
8. Place it in the infinity room; securing it with a small masking tape ring.

Clean up & Display

1. Wipe desks/placemats/clay tools as needed.
2. Ensure all sharpies have lids secured.
3. Attach infinity room to black construction paper by fastening a brad through the punched hole and using the metal prong fastener as a shelf/support below (see example on cart/art lit shelves).
4. Add student label; hang on class art gallery wall.