

Grade – 4

Lesson – Recycled CD Snowflake Mosaic

Academic Content Standards addressed in this unit:

Historical, Cultural, & Social Contexts – A, C
Creative Expression & Communication – A, D
Analyzing & Responding – A
Valuing the Arts/Aesthetic Reflection – A, D
Connections, Relationships & Applications – A, B

Description of essential educational content contained in this unit:

Through this lesson, students will learn about the origins of mosaics. Additionally, students will learn about snowflakes and the geometry related to them. Finally, this issue of recycling will be discussed throughout this project.

Performance-Based Objectives:

- Students will create a snowflake with six sides.
- Students will use pieces of recycled CDs as mosaic pieces.
- Students will discuss the importance of recycling.
- Students will look at their own artwork in order to assess themselves.

Vocabulary:

Mosaic – A kind of artwork that uses bits of tile, glass, etc. that are arranged in order to make a new image.

Snowflake – Frozen water particles with six sides that freeze and fall in the winter.

Preparations:

- Cut chip board to 10"x10" squares.
- Cut 9"x9" squares out of various colors of construction paper.
- Cut old CDs into strips using the paper cutter.

Procedures for the Teaching/Learning Structure:

Day 1:

- Introduce project.
 - Keynote
 - What is a mosaic?
 - Where/why are/were mosaics made?
 - Why was it important to have pictures that told stories?
 - What does a snowflake really look like?
- Studio work.
 - Kids paint their piece of chip board silver.
 - If time, start demonstration on how to make a 6-sided snowflake.
- Cleanup.
 - Students are responsible for their own cleanup.
 - Artist of the day will be given out when cleanup is complete.

Day 2:

- Review discussions and vocabulary from day one.
- Demonstration on how to cut a snowflake out of paper.
 - Once snowflake is cut out, students will glue it onto their silver chip board.
 - Next, students will trim off excess chip board so it creates a thin border around their snowflake.
- Studio time for working.
 - Students will take strips of CD and carefully break them into smaller pieces. The smaller pieces will then be glued down onto their snowflake.
- Cleanup.

Day 3 - ?:

- Review.
 - Answer any questions.
- Studio time.
 - Continue working on gluing down CD pieces.
 - On the last day, students will punch holes in their snowflake and string yarn through in order to have a way to hang the work.
 - An artist statement will be filled out and taped on the back of the artwork.
- Cleanup.

Final Project Guidelines:

- Each student creates one snowflake with 6 sides.
- Each snowflake will be covered with small pieces of broken CDs.
- An artist statement will be completed by each student at the end of the project.