

Transportation Images and the use of Mixed Media

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Ben D – Grade 1



Nathanael A – Grade 1

Objectives

Transportation is a unit in the grade 1 art curriculum. I have created objectives for grade 3 because it is the oldest grade to which I have taught this project/unit.

To create visually appealing pieces of work that incorporate wire into an image of a method of transportation.

Understand that the term “Mixed Media” refers to when more than one medium (artistic material, pastel, paint etc) is used.

Understand and use the term monochromatic as relating to an artist’s work.

Grade 3 Visual Art

The students will:

	know that <i>line, colour, texture, shape, form, and space</i> are called the elements of visual art
	understand that contour lines form the outline of an object
	use three-dimensional materials such as clay to create real textures
	recognize circles, squares, triangles, and rectangles as geometric shapes
	identify formal and informal patterns in own surroundings and in art works
	identify examples of contrast in own surroundings and in art works
	demonstrate the ability to perceive visual details, and understand that the inclusion of details enhances depictions of plants, animals, people, and objects
	make basic decisions about own methods and materials
	expand skills and abilities in using various visual art tools and materials
	become aware of the variety of art works in Saskatchewan and Canada, including the works of First Nation and Métis artists
	begin to understand that many different cultural groups contribute to Canada's artistic make-up

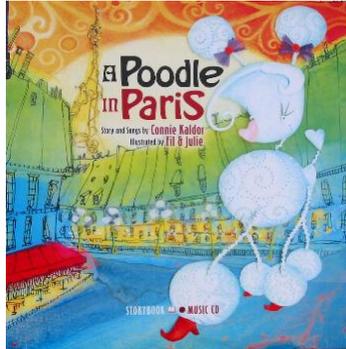
Materials

- Telephone wire (this wire comes in bright colours) it is the cable that is used underground by telephone companies. If you request in writing to your local telephone company for some of the cable you should be able to get some for free.
- Stiff paper to paint on
- Liquid tempera paint
- Small chunks of mat board or cardboard
- Thick darning needles or probes used for clay
- Tape
- Images of modes of transportation (magazines and calendars are great)
- Oil pastels

Background Information

The artist being studied is Richard Gorenko. I focused on his piece *Lead Products* for the 21st Century. His work used simple shapes to create various transportation pieces.

I also used the book *A Poodle in Paris*- Connie Kaldor, which includes many images of paintings with wire.



Resources

Book

Artist's biography: http://www.nouveaugallery.com/docs/Richard_Gorenko.pdf

Artist's Artwork: <http://www.nouveaugallery.com/index.php?page=252>

Images of various types of transportation



Thomas D – Grade 1

Procedure

1. Read the book to the children. Discuss with them what they notice that is interesting about the images in the book. What makes them different from other images? What types of forms are created with the wire? How does the artist use

- the wire to draw the attention of the viewer? Look at the edges of the forms and shapes in the pieces; see how the artist used the wire to enhance the outside edges of the forms.
2. Look at the images of Richard Gorenko's work. Notice how the background is simple and monochromatic (one colour). Point out how the artist broke each shape of the transportation piece into smaller shapes.
Why might he have done this?
The vehicles look like they are welded together piece by piece; why might this be an interesting way to create the images?
 3. Create with the children a list of various ways that people can get from place to place. Discuss which methods move many people and which move only a few people or even one.
 4. Have the children look through the images for one that appeals to them.
 5. Using the large paper the children draw their image. This needs to be drawn very large so that the wire that is attached later is not difficult to do.
 6. Use chunks of cardboard and liquid paint to fill in the background. The children drag the cardboard chunks on the background to create a very interesting texture very similar to Richard Gorenko. Do the same technique for the vehicle.
 7. The cardboard chunks are fun to paint with and clean up is a breeze as the chunks can just be discarded, no cleaning of brushes required.
 8. Two layers of paint can be done with the cardboard and it created a very interesting look. I do recommend mat board scraps as cardboard does break down more quickly and the students will need more chunks. Mat board scraps can be found at any framing store. These stores throw out large quantities of mat board that is in small strips.
 9. Wait for the pieces to dry.
 10. When the pieces are dry the children go over with oil pastels where they want more definition. They try to accentuate or highlight the interesting shapes and forms in their piece. Outlining windows and breaks between one shape and another.
 11. Once this is complete they can begin to make the wire shapes for their windows and any other area they want to accent.
 12. The wrapping of the wire and adding of the wire is a wonderful care partner activity.
 13. The wire is held on by making small holes in the paper. The end of the wire is inserted through it and taped on the back.

Here the student used wire to create a window. The wire was wrapped into a circle several times and then secured by wrapping the wire around and around the coiled wire. To keep the circle from moving attach the wire on both sides of the circle. See image below.



Some students also made specific shapes, fish, sun etc. Images of those are below. These images usually require a two step process, where the basic shape is made and then another attached. These are attached to the paper using one short piece of wire in two holes close to the piece that they are attaching. .



Optional Activities

1. Create ocean scenes with the cardboard and make the ocean creatures from the wire.
2. Create gardens and the flower petals with the wire pieces.
3. Create large-scale butterflies and use the wire to accent the wings in various areas.