

Found Object Assemblage Inspired By Louise Nevelson

By Janis Doukakis



“When you put together things that people have thrown out, you’re really bringing them to life - a spiritual life that surpasses the life for which they were originally created.” -Louise Nevelson 1899-1988

Recommended for ages 5+

Faber-Castell materials:

-Tempera Paints

Other:

box lid, variety of disposable odds and ends
white glue or glue gun
paint brush



Step 1: The goal of this project is for students to learn about some of the principles of sculpture, such as composition, form, shape and repetition. Read <http://www.studiointernational.com/index.php/louise-nevelson-the-artist-and-the-legend> Discuss how Nevelson was famous for her *assemblage* sculptures made of *found objects*.

Step 1: Provide a large assortment of disposable odds and ends in a variety of interesting shapes and sizes for students to choose from. Have each student carefully choose a dozen or so items for their art.

Step 2: Have them layout their objects in an interesting way inside their box lid. Encourage them to experiment; group similar objects to create *repetition*, look at things at different angles and positions, make them fit. When they have decided on a pleasing *composition*, have them glue the pieces down.

Step 3: Have students paint their assemblage in a *monochromatic* manner, including sides of the box and back. Notice how the painted pieces have been transformed and simplified into beautiful *shapes* and *forms*.

Vocabulary:

found objects- objects that originally had a different purpose, which the artist collected and used in his/her artwork

assemblage - form of sculpture made of “found” objects arranged in such a way that they create a piece. These objects can be anything organic or man-made.

monochromatic- having only one color

form- a 3 dimensional figure

shape- 2 dimensional or flat with defined edges

composition- combining elements in a pleasing arrangement

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