

Shrinkle Spaces

By Paula Briggs

In the AccessArt art club for ages 7, 8 and 9, we had fun this week using Shrinkles. For those that haven't used them before, Shrinkles are sheets of plastic which can be drawn and coloured, and which when baked in an oven for just a few seconds, shrink down to 1/7 of their former size. In addition to pre-printed sheets, you can also buy plain white and clear sheets, making them ideal for an art project such as this. Children love using them - the end results are captivating as the mark making too, shrinks down. The plastic becomes thicker so the end results feels permanent and product-like.



People and spaces with Shrinkle paper

The Subject Matter

After the [previous session in which we built quick clay figures in response to a sculpture](#), in this session I wanted to give the children the opportunity to explore how they might create groups of figures, and also create the space in which the groups existed. By working with individual elements (characters, objects, architectural shapes), I hoped the children would use a sense of play to experiment with building an occupied space which told a story.

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The Cardboard Project by Andee Collard

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Encourage children to consider what role a plinth may play in creating or displaying artwork

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A collection of sources and imagery to explore the sculptures of Thomas J Price

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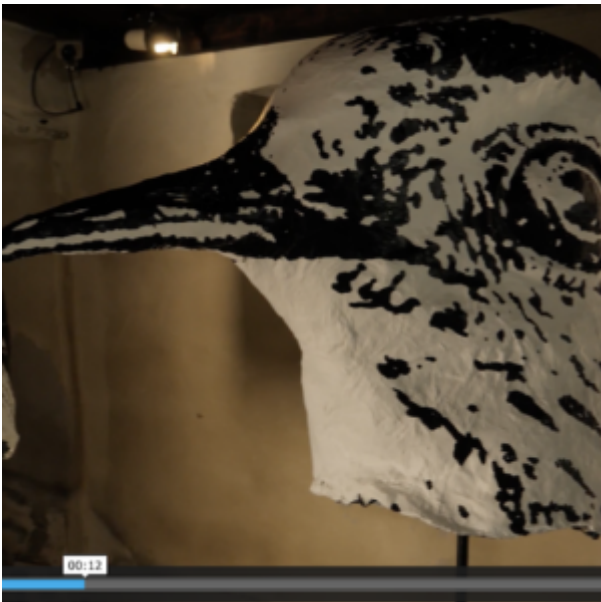
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Drawing source material: nests



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Year 4 Sculpture Project (ages 8 and 9)

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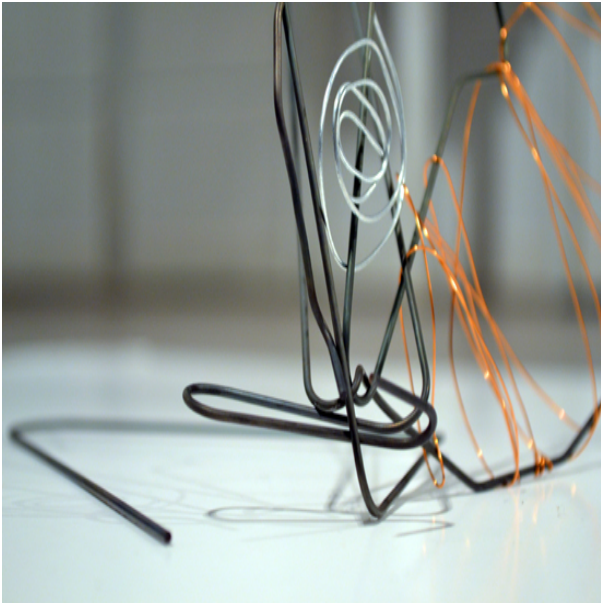
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Thinking and Making

How does the Sculpture Balance?

Construction-based sculpture project inspired by Ben Nicholson's paintings. Encourages children to take more risks by asking them to through their sculptures "off balance".

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Cardboard Sculptures

Staff at Ridgefield Primary School Cambridge explore an open-ended exploration of sculptural materials and techniques.

Clay Slab Work by Andy Cairns

Andy Cairns, sculptor, works with year five children to make a 'demon dog head' using self hardening clay formed around a simple armature.

Set Design with Primary Aged Children

Beautifully illustrated resources shares how year 3, 4, 5 and 6 children at Bourn Primary Academy explored set design through drawing and making.

Skull Sculptures: using Paper and Tape to Interpret Form

Teenagers sculpturally explore animal skulls, by making three dimensional interpretations of the forms in heavy, white paper

and coloured tape or masking tape. [Full AccessArt Members Only](#)

Which Artists: Faith Bebbington

What We Like About This Resource...

“Faith’s work creating sculptures using recycled or discarded plastic is really beautiful, and exceeds expectation of what we might consider scrap plastic being able to do. The processes she uses, particularly with the dancing figures, are all easily accessible to a school setting, with tape, card, wire being relatively inexpensive and simple to use. Delivering an Art project using waste plastic has cross curricular links with other subject areas, particularly PSHE and Geography where children may be learning about the environment and how to protect it” – Tobi, AccessArt.

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