

Exploring the creation of three-dimensional paper forms from flat materials.

"Pop-Up Art" is a two-part lesson. In the first part we will create simple cut-out shapes and explore various ways of twisting and turning them. We will convert these shapes into three-dimensional forms by anchoring the edges with tape to a flat board or paper base. Children are encouraged to experiment with looping forms and intersecting shapes. I will include slides of the work of sculptor Alexander Calder and architect Frank Gehry. In the second part I will guide them in the creation of a simple pop-up card design with a moveable tab. This lesson is designed to inspire children to further explore experimenting with three-dimensional paper forms. I will show them examples of moveable picture books and greeting cards.

Materials: Color construction paper or found paper, white copy paper, scissors, scotch tape, pencil, white school glue or glue stick,

The Lesson:

1. Self-introduction, project overview, and materials.
2. **Part 1: Turning 2D shapes into 3D forms.** Cut out a variety of shapes from paper.
3. Experiment with twisting and turning these shapes.
4. Create a *tab* by folding one edge.
5. Tape down tab to flat board or paper. Discuss *planes*.
5. Twist, turn, bend, or loop shape.
6. Create a tab on the other end and tape down.
7. Experiment with *intersecting* objects.
8. Show slides of the work of sculptor Alexander Calder and architect Frank Gehry.
9. **Part 2: Moveable Books and Cards.** Fold one 8.5 x 11" sheet of paper in half.
10. Measure and draw lines as instructed.
11. Cut along lines.
12. Insert moveable tab.
13. Glue cut-out paper to blank sheet.
14. Decorate card with colors, ribbon, glitter however you want. Show finished examples.
15. Show examples of moveable picture books and greeting cards.
16. Leave them with a challenge to learn more.

Connection to the Nevada Academic Content Standards for the Fine Arts

- Creating: Conceiving and developing new artistic work and ideas.
- Connecting: Relating artistic ideas and work with personal meaning and external content.

VA:Cr1.1.1 Engage collaboratively in exploration and imaginative play with materials.

VA:Cr2.1.1 Explore uses of materials and tools to create works of art or design.

VA:Cr3.1.1 Use art vocabulary to describe choices while creating art.

VA:Re8.1.1 Interpret art by categorizing subject matter and identifying the characteristics of media and composition.

VA:Cr1.3.1 Elaborate on an imaginative idea.

Connection to Literacy: "Pop-Up Art" connects to literacy through the exploration of several vocabulary words including tabs, multi-dimensional art, two-dimensional art vs. three-dimensional art, planes, pop-up forms, and moveable art. I will share some picture books and greeting cards with moveable art in them and talk about how this enhances the story's meaning. I will be giving them step-by-step

instructions, so listening to and following directions will be emphasized as well. I will also include slides that can be read that list materials required, as well as simplified step-by-step written instructions.

Resources

"Pop-Up Design and Paper Mechanics: 18 Shapes To Make," by Duncan Birmingham

Kiddle, Kid Encyclopedia: Frank Gehry Facts For Kids
https://kids.kiddle.co/Frank_Gehry

Kiddle, Kid Encyclopedia: Alexander Calder Facts For Kids
https://kids.kiddle.co/Alexander_Calder

Moveable Book Society Newsletters
<https://movablebooksociety.org/newsletter/>

Prompt for further exploration:

Choose a page from your favorite picture book. Think about ways that pop-up art or moveable components could be included to enhance the story's meaning. Try creating one or more of these design components on your own with separate sheets of paper.

About the Artist

Bonnie Kelso

Bonnie Kelso writes and illustrates books for children and adults that encourage individualism and brave creative self-expression. She facilitates creative workshops online and in-person. A graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design, Bonnie has a background in exhibit design and has worked on projects for NASA, National Geographic, and the Smithsonian Institution. She traveled all the way around the world... twice! Bonnie still enjoys indulging her wandering nature whenever she gets the chance. Currently, she lives in Las Vegas with her partner and two sons with whom she enjoys many real and imaginary adventures.

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The Nevada Arts Council Teaching Artist Roster is an online resource for schools, organizations and communities seeking to engage teaching artists. Roster artists are experienced in collaborating with schools and communities to conduct arts learning and cultural experiences in, through and about the arts.

Explore the roster at <https://www.nvartscouncil.org/rosters/teaching-artists/>