

# "A Blackfoot Travois"

MOLAS (MOE-luz)

(Grade 5 Print: "A Blackfoot Travois" by Curtis)

Be sure to try this one ahead of time. Look up word "molass" on the internet to show students examples. Molass may also be seen at craft fairs, street vendors and Pike Place Market.

**CURRICULUM CONNECTION:** Social Studies Central America: The Cuna Indians from San Blas Islands near Panama create Molass, colorful cloth designs, which they use to decorate clothing.

**ART CONCEPT:** Symmetry, pattern, shapes (EALR Grade 5 # 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.3, 3.2)

**GRADE LEVEL:** 5 and up

**MEDIUM:** cut paper

**MATERIALS:** 9x12" sheets of construction paper  
Red, black, yellow, green, blue  
Pencil  
Scissors  
Paste or glue

## PROCEDURES:

1. Draw a simple outline of animal such as a fish, butterfly, turtle or bird, etc.
2. Use the red sheet as your background color.
3. Choose colors in any order you like.
4. Color #2 black and draw the outline of your animal then cut it out.
5. Color #3 yellow then lay the black shape onto the yellow paper and trace around it. Now make a line about  $\frac{1}{4}$ " inside the traced outline. This will be the cutting line. Each color must be slightly smaller than the preceding color.

6. Color #4 or use red to make it look more authentic. Cut some shapes of various body parts like tails, legs, head, wings etc. Remember, these need to be smaller than the previous color.
7. Paste the black shape onto the red. Paste the yellow onto the black. Continue this process until the design is completed.
8. Keep repeating this process to build up the design. Many molas use several layers of red.