

“An Afternoon at La Grande Jatte”

RAINBOW MOSAIC

(Grade 5 Print: “An Afternoon at La Grande Jatte” by Seurat)

This project’s visual effect is quite striking when created with bright colors on black.

CURRICULUM CONNECTION:

Science, rainbow, white light versus pigment reflected light. Use animals as the design in this project.

Social Studies: show examples of cultures that have used mosaic in architecture and decor.

ART CONCEPT: mosaic, neutral and complimentary color spectrums, drawing man-made shapes and natural shapes (EALR grade 5 #1.1.1, 1.1.2)

MEDIUM: CUT PAPER MOSAIC

GRADE LEVEL: 5 and up

TIME: 1 hour or more but can be finished independently.

MATERIALS:

- Scratch paper and pencil
- 8 ½” by 3” astro colored copy paper - each color of the rainbow
- 12x18 black construction paper
- Glue
- Scissors
- Envelope or folded paper to store cut pieces for future work session

PROCEDURES:

1. Students will practice drawing an animal or other shapes on the scratch paper with outline only. No inside detail is necessary. They will choose their favorite one.
2. Using the pencil eraser, students draw their design on black construction paper. The eraser is easy to brush away if changes need to be made.
3. Talk with students about colors of the rainbow: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and violet. Follow this sequence to arrange strips of the colors on the

white board as spokes of a wheel. Place pinks next to red, turquoise between blue and green, and gold between orange and yellow.

4. When students begin gluing they may begin with any color, but they need to follow the order of the colors from that point around the wheel.

5. Cut one color strip into mosaic pieces, about ½" piece, that may be irregularly shaped.

6. Glue these pieces in stripes across the drawing. Pieces should be close together with small spaces of black visible in-between the pieces of colors. Choosing the next color on the wheel repeat this cut and paste process until the picture is complete.

The visual effect is usually more striking with a single object on the plain black background but some subjects lend themselves to other things in the picture.