"Tridem K"

MELTING SNOWFLAKES
(Grade 3 Print: "Tridem K" by Vasarely)

This is a good winter project, which needs step-by-step instruction. The results are lovely when done correctly. It is worth the effort.

CURRICULUM CONNECTION: Science: weather   Math: radius, symmetry, fractions.

ART CONCEPT: positive and negative space, pattern (EALR grade 3 # 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.2)

MEDIUM: Colored tissue paper

TIME: One hour

GRADE LEVEL: grade 3 and up

MATERIALS: White construction paper
              Craft or Elmer's glue watered down
              Colored tissue paper cut into 6", 5", & 3' squares
              Brushes
              Scissors

PROCEDURES;
1. Using scrap paper fold in ½ (hamburger) Fold in ½ again. The third fold will be on the diagonal starting from the folded edge.   This should create a pointed cone like shape.

    Fifth and Sixth grade could do this slightly differently to follow the scientific six radius of a snowflake. Again fold in half.   Find center on folded edge. This will be center point. Fold each edge beyond the center to create a cone shape. Fold that shape in half.   TRY THIS YOURSELF! You should have six equal angles around the center point.   Cut the uneven edges at the top to create a curve like a snow cone.

2. Cut a variety of shapes into the folded edges.   The more cuts the lacer the snowflake will be.   You can also cut off the tip and v-shapes from the open edges toward the point.

3. Unfold and voila! A surprise! Hopeful a whole snowflake. If you end up with two pieces keep them because can be put at the edge of the paper or put back together again in the next step.

4. Repeat with a couple different colors and sizes of tissue.

5. Paint the white paper with watered down glue.

6. Lay the snowflakes onto the wet surface. Smooth out any folds or bubbled areas with a paintbrush. Overlap snowflakes, some could even go off the edges of the paper. The colors of the tissue will bleed to look as if they are melting. Don't over work the surface or you will have a blob.

7. Let dry. Then, press under a stack of books.

8. EXTRA Challenge: Who can make the smallest snowflake or the largest?