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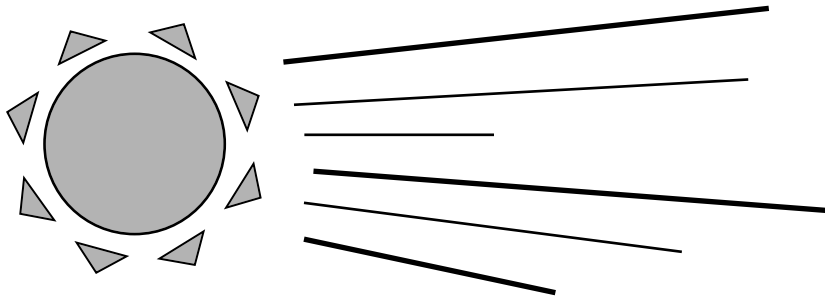
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Sun Catchers

Purpose of the Lesson

to instruct the students in the organization of the elements of art so that the whole composition will be more important than the individual parts

Art History

Marc Chagall (1887–1985) was born in Russia. He never could quite forget the memories of his childhood. His painting “I and the Village” has a dreamlike quality created from jumbled images from folk tales, Jewish proverbs, and memories of his hometown.

Materials

- wax paper
- electric iron
- crayon shavings
- glitter
- 8 ½" x 11" (22 cm x 28 cm) construction paper
- assortment of small and medium-sized leaves
- paste or glue
- scissors

Variations

- old magazines

Procedure

Have each student cut out a frame with one-inch (2.54 cm) borders from a sheet of construction paper. Then have each student cut two 8 ½" x 11" (22 cm x 28 cm) pieces of wax paper. Tell the students to make a pleasing arrangement of fall leaves of varying sizes, textures, and colors on one of their pieces of wax paper. The arrangements should then be sprinkled with colored crayon shavings and glitter. Have the students lay their other pieces of wax paper on top of their arrangements and iron these with a warm iron. When the wax paper is sealed, ¼"

(.64 cm) should be trimmed from the four sides. The students can finish their creations by pasting them into the construction paper frames and attaching strings for hanging in a sunny window.

Assignment Choices

1. Cut leaves, flowers, ferns, and other plant shapes from construction paper. Lay the shapes on wax paper. Sprinkle them with crayon shavings and place another piece of wax paper over the arrangement. Press with a warm iron and frame the design with a construction paper frame.
2. Cut small geometric shapes from colored construction paper. Arrange the shapes in a kaleidoscopic pattern on a piece of wax paper. Sprinkle with crayon shavings and place another piece of wax paper over the arrangement. Press with a warm iron and frame the design with a construction paper frame.
3. Cut colorful shapes from tissue paper. Make an overlapping design. Sprinkle with crayon shavings and place another piece of wax paper over the design. Iron with a warm iron and frame it with a construction paper frame.
4. Choose a theme, such as sports. Cut out pictures from magazines relating to the theme and arrange the pictures on a piece of wax paper. Sprinkle with crayon shavings and place another piece of wax paper over the arrangement. Iron with a warm iron and frame it with a construction paper frame.

Connection

Marc Chagall’s painting, with its many interesting elements, works as a whole to impart long ago memories in a dreamlike sequence.

