

Judy Krueger - Johnsburg HS

ORIGINAL LESSON PLAN
CREATED BY JANE HARLOW

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Lesson Plan Level: Emerging, Proficient and Advanced levels (all possible)

EMPHASIS ON UNOCCUPIED SPACE -
2D DESIGN COLLAGE

Definition: Unoccupied Space: Empty space surrounding a shape or form. The form or shape itself is the positive space.

Objectives: The student will become aware of the SHAPE of negative/unoccupied spaces that surround objects as well as the negative/unoccupied shapes within the forms of the objects.

Instructions:

The teacher will instruct the students to use a camera or phone to photograph negative/unoccupied spaces found in such places as in tree branches, between chair and table legs, in plants, around and within bicycles or tricycles, within architecture, mechanical objects, things within their environment, etc.

The student will use the camera or phone to photograph interesting negative/unoccupied spaces that are created by objects and take photos of those spaces.

The students will return to class with many images from which to work.

Using their photos, they will select one that creates a similar non-objective composition that emphasizes negative/unoccupied space.

The student will lightly draw the objects creating those negative spaces on a large piece of paper (12"x 18" or larger)

The students will then select paper to use for patterns in those negative spaces. They may use scrapbook paper pads, stained newspaper, stained pages from old books, maps, color printed photos they have put together in a collage, comic books, painted papers, etc.

The student will use tracing paper over the negative spaces to trace the negative/unoccupied shapes(spaces), cut those shapes out and use them as a pattern over paper that will be used to

glue in the negative spaces or... glue smaller, individual pieces of paper to fill the negative spaces.

Once the negative/unoccupied spaces have been covered, the student will use separate SHAPES to spread across the artwork. These shapes should be heavy enough to stay in place if spray paint will be used in the next step. Cut shapes from mat board, cardboard, plastic shapes, etc. will work. (The teacher might purchase light weight wooden shapes from art supply stores.... Such as rulers, shapes of animals, words, etc)

The student will now spray paint, sponge on paint, splatter paint, etc... a light coating of color around the objects that have been placed on top of the artwork.

After the layer of new color has dried, the student will remove the block-out shapes

The student will now decide how to emphasize the original drawing. They may use a sharpie or pencil (black or colored), etc. to add details to the original drawing, creating interest to draw the viewer into the work.

The emphasis **MUST REMAIN ON THE UNOCCUPIED - NEGATIVE SPACES** so the attention given to the objects that formed the negative spaces should be **MINIMAL**.

Materials:

White paper, 12" X 18" or 18" X 24"
Camera or phone camera to photograph negative/unoccupied spaces
Pencil for original drawing (draw lightly)
Scraps of paper (maps, scrapbook papers, books, newspapers, magazines, comic books, comic strips, wrapping paper, painted paper)
Bottles of liquid glue, glue sticks
Acrylic paint, spray paint, sprayers for diluted acrylic paint
Shapes to use to block-out layers of color
Tracing paper
Scissors, Exacto knives

(OPTION: The teacher might set-up a huge still-life that shows unoccupied spaces and allow the students to photograph parts of the still life..... and spaces created in the room under furniture, around cords, etc..... if the teacher does not feel comfortable allowing the students to leave the room to search for subject matter)

Vocabulary:

Negative space (Unoccupied Space)
Positive Space (Occupied Space)
Composition
Emphasis
Asymmetry

Collage
Wash
Block-out or masking
Contrast
Control of the Viewer's Eye
Color harmonies
Craftsmanship
Student Vision

Criteria for Evaluation:

Did the student follow instructions?
Did the student crop the chosen subject as to allow for an asymmetrical design in the composition
Did the student fill the negative/unoccupied spaces in a creative and interesting pattern or style
Did the student use the spray paint in a creative pattern?
Did the student allow the emphasis to remain on the unoccupied spaces instead of the object that formed the design?
Is the work overall done with strong Craftsmanship?
Is the Student's Vision/Voice apparent?