

Art IS Education Project Plan

Creating A Better Future Together: Community Collage Quilt Project

✧ Simple, fun project for all ages using paper and other readily accessible materials ✧

Overview

Families, schools, libraries, and arts organizations are encouraged to use the Art IS Education project plan to explore and celebrate the 2012 theme “Creating A Better Future Together.” The project plan provides directions for how to use recycled paper and other materials to create a Community Collage Quilt made of individual 8.5 inch x 8.5 inch panels. This lesson plan was developed by the Alameda County Arts Commission based on the overall concept and detailed lesson plan by teaching artist Remi Rubel. Other contributors include teaching artists Lilli Lanier and Marion Coleman.

Creating Your Community Quilt

Ideally, your organization will coordinate youth classes or family workshops in which the paper quilt squares can be created. The goal is to collect the squares from the participants and then assemble all the squares into a large quilt that can be displayed for your community to see. If possible, your quilt participants could make two quilt squares -- one that will be added to the community quilt and one that the participant can take home.

This document includes suggestions for introducing the project to your community group, basic steps and materials for the project, and a reflection sheet. This document is meant as a starting point--feel free to customize the project to your community and context. Also, staff at your organization may use this document to help them lead the project with your community, or alternately your organization can bring in a Teaching Artist to guide the workshop.

For more information:

- Visit the Art IS Education web site at www.artiseducation.org/10 to learn more about Art IS Education, the Community Quilt Project, and other projects and resources.
- Contact Violet Juno at the Alameda County Arts Commission at violet.juno@acgov.org. She can:
 - Help you answer questions about how to tailor this project to your unique needs.
 - Connect you to Bay Area teaching artists who can conduct an Art IS Education workshop at your site.

Sharing Your Quilt

Your organization is encouraged to display your quilt for your community to see. Additionally, there will be other opportunities to share your quilt. Contact Violet Juno at the Alameda County Arts Commission at violet.juno@acgov.org to receive information about opportunities to display your quilt by:

- Contributing quilt squares to the Countywide Community Quilt as part of the Art IS Education presentation to the Alameda County Board of Supervisors (Quilt squares collected through Feb. 20, 2012).
- Sharing pictures of your Community Quilt online (Images collected through April 15, 2012).
- Exhibiting your quilt through the Alameda County Office of Education exhibits (Quilts collected through May 1, 2012).

Introducing Participants to the Project

Begin the project by introducing the key components to participating families, school classes, and neighborhood communities including information about:

Quilts

- Quilts are made by a group of people traditionally known as a “quilting bee” who work together to make a fabric artwork. Share some examples or photographs of quilts with participants. Ask them if they have seen, used or made a quilt before.
- Discuss how quilts are an example of collective impact: a group of people working together to do something large as a community that would be difficult or impossible to do alone. Ask participants to

think about examples of what groups of people can achieve by working together including examples at their school or community centers such as libraries.

Quilt Materials

- Many quilts are made out of fabric, but quilts can also be made out of a wide range of materials. This quilt project will use a range of recycled paper materials such as cardboard, magazines, maps, newspapers, or food packaging. Perhaps there are discarded items from the your school or library site that can be used for this project.
- Discuss how materials destined for the landfill or the recycling bin can find a new life through art. Ask participants what examples of art made from recycled materials they may know about.

Quilt Theme

- The theme of this paper community collage quilt is “Creating A Better Future Together.” Explore together the ways we can envision a better future:
 - What actions can we take to create a healthy life for ourselves, a thriving family, a peaceful community and a green planet? Discuss how these actions such as healthy eating, a positive attitude, teamwork, and sustainable “green” actions could have a positive ripple effect from person to family to community to the planet.
 - Brainstorm ways you can express your vision for a better future:
 - What kind of pictures or symbols could you use?
 - What colors could you use?
 - What words could you use?
 - As you make the community quilt together, pay attention to how the process itself is part of creating a better future. Through the process of making the quilt, everyone can practice working together as a community while learning new art and life skills that promote lifelong learning.

Basic Steps To Create a Community Collage Quilt Project

Steps	Description	Materials
1	Introduce the project using suggestions listed above. Ask participants to brainstorm their own vision for a better future for their quilt panel. Encourage participants to write down a few key words that will help guide them as they create their collage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource materials to look at such as books, photographs or other examples of key themes for the project.
2	Ask participants to choose a background paper (newspaper or maps) to cut and glue to onto a quilt square foundation backing material. If you like, you can use a see-through square framing template to help participants frame what area of the newspaper or map they would like to use as the background for their quilt square. Participants can move the see-through square around the background paper until they find the 8.5x8.5 piece they would like to use. They can use pencils or markers to draw the outline and cut it out.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quilt square foundation backing material Options: 8.5 x 8.5 inch square pieces of cardboard, cardstock, or construction paper • Background paper added on top of foundation backing: recycled newspaper, maps or paper • See-Through Square Framing Template Options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transparent sheet protectors • School report folders with clear cover page • Gluestick or glue • Scissors
3	Ask participants to choose images, colors and words from recycled papers that will help express their personal vision for a better future. Cut or tear the images and collect them together.	Quilt Image Material Options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Magazines and books • Food packaging • Bulk mail advertising

Steps	Description	Materials
4	Encourage participants to experiment with different ways the images and words can be arranged on the quilt background. Tear or cut images to fine-tune the design. Ask each participant to choose their favorite arrangement of images and glue it down.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Selected images from Step 3 Scissors Gluestick or glue
5	During the process, take pictures to document the project.	Camera
6	Ask participants to add a short message to their quilt square to express their vision for a better future. They could use draw the letters, use sticker letters, or cut out words or letters from recycled materials.	<p>Message Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drawing tools: Color pencils, crayons or markers Vinyl, sticker or press-on letters Magazines or bulk mail advertisements.
7	Suggest that participants take a moment to pause in their work and take a “gallery walk” around the room to silently look at artwork that is being created by others.	
8	When participants return to their artwork, encourage them to take a look at their quilt square and decide which elements they want to stand out. Use a dark marker or pen to outline those elements.	Markers or Sharpie pens
9	Encourage participants to look at their quilt square and make any final touches or embellishments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small recycled items like bottle caps, corks, ribbon, yarn, fabric samples, slides, old photographs, etc
10	When your workshop participants have completed their squares, make sure they write their names and the name of your organization on the back of each square. For youth, also include age or grade level.	Markers
11	<p>Lay the squares out on a table or the floor in a grid and encourage everyone to look at the wide variety of designs and messages.</p> <p>Move the squares around to try out different compositions. There are many ways to compose your quilt:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A checkerboard pattern balancing the more detailed squares with the squares with more open space. A design that groups similar colors close to one another or spread them out. A design that arranges the quilt panels in a specific order to tell a story. 	Open space or large table to lay out the quilt squares in a grid
12	Once the overall composition has been decided, it’s time to assemble the quilt. You can do this with the workshop participants OR you can assemble it at a later date when you have collected enough squares. There are several ways to assemble the quilt:	
12a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you will be displaying the quilt squares on a bulletin board, you can simply pin them up next to each other to give the visual impression of a quilt. 	Thumbtacks or “T” pins
12b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you will be attaching the quilt squares to a large piece of butcher paper or cardboard, tape or glue them to the quilt backing. Choose your adhesive based on what would best hold the weight of your quilt squares. 	<p>Adhesive Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Masking tape Duct tape Glue or tacky glue Hot glue gun and glue gun sticks

Steps	Description	Materials
12c	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If you will be attaching the quilt squares together to make a quilt that can be hung on a wall, cut holes in the quilt squares and connect the squares together. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Use the hole template provided on page 8 and a pen to mark eight holes at the corners and midpoints along the top, bottom and sides of the finished quilt square. ○ To make quarter inch holes: Use a hole punch for quilt squares on thick paper. Use a nail and hammer or a drill to make holes for quilt squares made on thick cardboard. Use tape to reinforce or repair ripped holes as needed. ○ Bend and fold a twist tie at its tip to make it easier to thread through the holes. On the front of the panel, push the twist tie into a hole. Push the other end of the twist tie down the front hole of an adjacent panel. ○ Turn over the panels and twist the ends together on the backsides of the squares. Leave about a 1/2" - 3/4" gap between the panels for movement and folding purposes. ○ The holes at the juncture of four panels will take two twist ties for both vertical and horizontal connectors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hole Cutting Options: Hole punch, nail and hammer, drill ● Hole Reinforcement Options: Scotch tape, masking tape, duct tape ● Quilt Connector Options: Twist ties (collected from produce and toy packaging), pipe cleaners, any wire that is easy to bend
13	<p>Reflect on the finished quilt as a group together. Encourage participants to look at it silently for a short while, and then share using the following prompts.</p>	
13a	<p>For reflecting with younger children and families, use the See Think Wonder thinking routine.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What do you see? Ask the group to share everything they see in the artwork. ● What do you think? Ask participants to share what they think about what they see. What similarities and differences do they see? What stands out? How does their eye move through the quilt? What do they notice that they didn't at first? ● What do you wonder? What questions come to you as they look at the quilt? What would you like to explore next after making this quilt together? 	<p>For more info about this Visual Thinking Routine and other core routines developed by Project Zero at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, please visit: http://pzweb.harvard.edu/vt/VisibleThinking_html_files/03_ThinkingRoutines/03c_CoreRoutines.html.</p>
13b	<p>For reflecting with groups of older youth and adults, use the following modified See Think Wonder prompts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What do you notice about the quilt? What similarities and differences do you see? ● Thinking about the process of creating the quilt, what did you notice about your own art making process? What was challenging and what do you feel was a personal success? ● Looking at how all the pieces come together to create this quilt, what do you think is the overall message of the quilt? What ideas or activities would you like to explore next after making this quilt—either on your own or as a group? 	<p>For more info about this Visual Thinking Routine and other core routines developed by Project Zero at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, please visit: http://pzweb.harvard.edu/vt/VisibleThinking_html_files/03_ThinkingRoutines/03c_CoreRoutines.html.</p>
14	<p>Also, participants can reflect in writing about their experience using the attached Individual Reflection Sheet on page 9 based on the Studio Habits of Mind.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Individual Reflection Sheet ● For more info about the Studio Habits of Mind from Project Zero at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, please visit: http://pzweb.harvard.edu/research/StudioThink.htm

Steps	Description	Materials
15	Ask participants to share something positive about the process with the group. Perhaps they want to thank a peer for helping them or a project leader for their guidance. Close with a few key positive traits you noticed about the group process. These could include how they solved a problem, worked together as a team, or tackled a large project successfully. If possible record comments to include in your quilt display.	Paper and pen or audio recording device to record participant reflections.
16	Display your quilt for your community. Create a sign to be displayed with the quilt that describes the process, includes the names of the participants, and quotes about their experience. As part of your signage, please include the project theme, Creating a Better Future Together! and Art IS Education 2012.	Copy or construction paper for display signage.
17	Take pictures of your community quilt to post on your web site, blog or newsletter.	Camera
18	Contact Violet Juno at the Alameda County Arts Commission at violet.juno@acgov.org to receive information about opportunities to display your quilt by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contributing quilt squares to the Countywide Community Quilt as part of the Art IS Education presentation to the Alameda County Board of Supervisors (Quilt squares collected through Feb. 20, 2012). Sharing pictures of your Community Quilt online (Images collected through April 15, 2012). Exhibiting your quilt through the Alameda County Office of Education exhibits (Quilts collected through May 1, 2012). 	

Local Resources for Recycled Materials

These local organizations sell recycled materials at low cost that can be used for this project including magazines, maps, books, and other materials.

East Bay Depot for Creative Reuse

Website: <http://creativereuse.org>

Location: 4695 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, CA 94609

Donation Hotline: 510.547.6535

Administrative Office: 510.655.6628

Open to the public seven days a week

Store Hours: 11am-6pm daily Material Donation Hours: 11am-5pm daily

Green Educator Program: greenteachers@creativereuse.org

“Reuse Links” website page with helpful links: <http://creativereuse.org/links.html>

The East Bay Depot for Creative Reuse is an ecological treasure trove of art & craft materials, educational supplies, vintage furniture, home décor, paper goods, fabric, and much more. Founded in 1979 by two Oakland public school teachers, the Depot promotes solid waste diversion and resource conservation through the Depot store and environmental education programs. The mission of the East Bay Depot is to divert waste materials from landfills by collecting and redistributing discarded goods as low-cost supplies for art, education, and social services in our Depot Store. The educational mission is to increase the awareness of school children and the general public regarding the green benefits of reusing materials.

SCRAP: A Resource for Resourcefulness

Website: www.scrap-sf.org

Location: On Newcomb between Toland and Selby Streets in San Francisco, CA 94124

Phone: (415) 647-1746

Email: scrap@scrap-sf.org

Hours of Operation: Monday through Saturday, 9:00am to 5:00pm

"Reuse Resources" helpful links: <http://www.scrap-sf.org/creative-reuse/creative-reuse-resources>

SCRAP is a non-profit creative reuse center, materials depot, and workshop space founded in 1976 in San Francisco, California. SCRAP breathes new life into old objects and reduces waste by diverting over 200 tons of materials heading to landfill every year. Donations of quality re-usable materials such as textiles, buttons, paper, craft and office supplies, plastics, and wood are collected from businesses, institutions, and individuals then sorted and made available to teachers, parents, artists, and organizations. The community depends on SCRAP as the place to find all manner of materials for educational programs, creative projects, and their classrooms. By offering low cost supplies, creative reuse workshops, volunteer opportunities, educational field trips, art exhibitions, and more SCRAP gives students of all ages the opportunity to learn and pass on the value of creative reuse.

Skill Development Goals

This is a list of skill development goals that could be included as part of this project.

- Learn new artistic skills and techniques.
- Express feelings or ideas through images and words.
- Start to use the language and vocabulary of the arts.
- Practice problem solving and critical thinking skills through the process of art-making.
- Engage with personal, community and global issues.
- Make connections to ourselves, others and the world around us.
- Work together and build community.
- Build confidence through engagement and achievement.


California Visual and Performing Arts Standards

This is an overview of standards that could be addressed as part of this project.

- 1.1 Describe and replicate repeated patterns in nature, the environment and in works of art.
- 1.2 Perceive and discuss differences in mood created by warm and cool colors.
- 1.3 Identify complementary colors and discuss how they can communicate an idea or mood.
- 1.5 Identify and describe elements of design in works of art, emphasizing line, color, shape, form, texture, space and value.
- 2.1 Demonstrate beginning skill in the use of basic tools and art-making processes.
- 2.1 Create original works of art that reflect their feelings and point of view.
- 2.7 Communicate values, opinions, or personal insights through an original work of art.
- 2.7 Create works of art that express a personal statement demonstrating skill in applying the elements of art and the principles of design.
- 3.1 Understand how artists use their work to share experiences or communicate ideas.
- 4.1 Compare ideas expressed through their own art with ideas expressed in work by others.
- 4.2 Identify successful and less successful compositional and expressive qualities of their own works of art and describe what might be done to improve them.
- 4.2 Describe the form (how a work of art looks) and content (what a work of art expresses).
- 4.3 Use the vocabulary of art to talk about what they wanted to do in their own works of art and how they succeeded.
- 4.4 Assess their own works of art, using specific criteria, and describe what changes they would make for improvement.
- 5.3 Create artwork containing visual metaphors that express ideas.

Quilt Square Template for Holes Community Collage Quilt Project

- These 8 holes are placed a half inch inside the edge of the 8.5 inch x 8.5 inch quilt square.
- Please note your printer may have a default margin setting that could shift the printed template to the right. This template is meant to be a starting point. Adjust the lines & holes as necessary.

 Cut on this line.



← Hole (1 of 8)



Quilt Square Template for Holes



 Cut on this line.

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Individual Reflection Based on the Studio Habits of Mind

Name: _____ Age: _____ School/Organization: _____ Date: _____

Stretch & Explore

I pushed myself to try something new when I:

I allowed myself to make “mistakes” when I:

I think art is important because:

Develop Craft

Through this program I got better at these skills:

You can tell I improved my artistic skills because:

Engage & Persist

While working on this project, I ran into a problem when:

I worked through this problem by doing:

I got interested in this project when I:

What kept me interested in this project was:

Express

In this project, I expressed these feelings:

In this project, I expressed these ideas:

Reflect and Evaluate

I think this project relates to my life because:

I think the most important thing I learned was: