Looking at the *Principles of Design*

Going Deeper with the Elements of Art Station Activities

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Principles of Design

UNITY
UNITY is the arrangement of elements and principles of art to create a feeling of completeness, wholeness, and/or a sense of belonging together.

The artist might achieve unity in his/her composition when he/she

• Repeats a color shape, pattern or line.
• Uses one dominant color or shape.
• Uses related colors, such as an analogous color scheme.
• Arranges the elements to create a feeling of order.
• Supports a theme with shapes or elements.
• Supports a mood with shapes or elements.
Station Instructions

1. Read and review the definitions and examples of unity in art.
2. With your group, analyze and explain how the artist has achieved unity in his work.
3. Create a small collage artwork repeating square shapes as your means to achieve a sense of unity.
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Emph
Wood, Grant
*Death on Ridge Road*
1938
Steiglitz, Alfred
*O'Keeffe Hand*
1918
Hogue, Alexander

Dustbowl

1933
Station Instructions

1. Read and review the definitions and examples of *emphasis* in art.

2. Choose one of the artwork examples that appeals to you.

   1. Determine the *focal point* of the painting
   2. Represent the focal point by creating a symbolic sculpture with the Model Magic.
Emphasis

the importance given to certain objects or areas in an artwork. Color, texture, shape, space, placement, and size can be used to create dominance, contrast, or a focal point.
Balance

Balance, in artwork, is the placement of the elements so that no one part of the design overpowers any other part or seems visually heavier.
RADIAL Balance

- A type of balance in which lines or shapes spread out from a center point.

Severt, Carrie. Star Quilt, 1978
ASSYMETRICAL/Informal Balance

• A type of balance in which the two sides of the artwork look equally important even though they are not alike.

James Whistler, girl in white with a Japanese fan
SYMMETRICAL

- A type of balance in which both sides of an artwork look the same or almost the same.

American 19th Century
Cutout of Animals, second quarter 19th century
1. Read and review the definitions and examples of each type of balance.

2. Create a Tree Map by sorting the artwork samples with your group.

3. Select one of the artwork examples that could connect to your curriculum.
   – Describe the connection and how you would use it in the classroom.
   – Tell which *Artful Thinking* routine could be used with it and why.
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Proportion

relationships of parts to each other and to the whole work.
Our sense of proportion in art comes from the human body. Proportions are often normal and expected. They can also be **exaggerated and distorted**. **Sometimes** proportions are **idealized** – more perfect than you might see in nature.

- **Standard** – describes a person or object that seems to have appropriate height, width, and depth compared to its surroundings
- **Altered** – describes objects or people whose proportions have been changed or altered.
- **Monumental** – much larger than life-size
- **Miniature** – very small
- **Scale** - the relative size of something compared with what you expect. Scale can be created in two ways.
  a. **Realistic Scale** – *when an artist creates a work of art in which various elements seem to fit together well and they resemble size relations in real life.*
  b. **Unrealistic scale** – *when an artist intentionally makes size relationships that do not resemble real life.*
Station Instructions

1. Select a small square from the pile.

2. Recreate it on a larger square and place it on the grid according to the number on the back.

3. Return the small square to the “used” cup.
Benton, Thomas Hart
The Sowers
1942
Close, Chuck
Self Portrait
2000
Claes Oldenburg & Coosje van Bruggen, 
*Spoonbridge and Cherry*, 1985-1988
Green, Jonathan

Annette’s Dolls