CREATE YOUR OWN MINIATURE SCULPTURE GARDEN

Learn to make a tiny sculpture garden that you can keep and explore at home, just like the ones you’d find at your favorite museum or park.

STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS

1. Find a cardboard box, like an old shoebox. This will be what will hold your mini sculpture garden.

2. Using a crayon, draw a path that goes through your garden so that you can imagine walking through it. You can add as much detail to this path as you like!

3. Next, color the ground to make your box feel more like a garden. You can add green to make grass or colorful flowers.

4. Using white paper, draw and color in a small pond for your garden. You can use your imagination to add things to your pond like fish or birds! You can also create a bridge to go over it using a strip of white paper, folded on either side and glued to the box over the pond.

5. Create your own sculptures for your sculpture garden. Using your glue, you can make lines and swirls and attach pipe cleaners/yarn/string to the glue to add dimension and texture. You can also wrap them around other objects like cardboard to create a unique piece for your garden.

6. Add in some more sculptures like tiny toys that will look large in your garden and even rocks or things you collect in nature. Imagine what these objects would look like to you if you were small enough to walk through your garden.

7. Enjoy your garden and share it with others! You can always rearrange the sculptures, add new pieces of artwork and more.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- A cardboard box from your house
- Glue
- Crayons
- Pipe cleaners
- Yarn
- White paper

DID YOU KNOW?

A sculpture garden is a public, outdoor space where sculptures can be on display for anyone to see.

Have you ever been to a sculpture garden? Can you imagine what one looks like?

Our sculpture garden was inspired by Maya Lin, an artist who works in sculpture and land art. She’s most well-known for the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C.

CREATED BY: LETITIA RAE

Letitia is an artist from Richmond, Virginia. She received her BFA from Virginia State University in 2014 with a concentration in Illustration and Printmaking. She has been teaching middle school for over five years and is also a stained glass instructor at the Visual Arts Center of Richmond.

WE WANT TO SEE WHAT YOU MAKE!

Share your artwork on Instagram or Facebook and use #rva creativit ykits so we can see your work! You can also tag @oakwoodarts and @visartsrva.

SOLs Covered: 4.3, 4.4, 4.13, 5.7, 5.3
CREATE A MINIATURE BUST OR 3-D PORTRAIT OUT OF CLAY!

STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS

1. Ball up a piece of aluminum foil and form it into the shape of a head. You can roll it on a table or between your hands to help create a nice round shape.

2. Ball up another piece into the shape of a semi-circle to resemble the shape of your shoulders, which will hold up your head.

3. Using a toothpick, place one end at the bottom of the foil "head" and place the other in the center of the "shoulders" to create the basic shape of a person from the shoulders up. Stand the figure by flattening the bottom by applying pressure.

4. Use your hands to place small pieces of clay onto the foil form and smooth it out OR flatten pieces of clay and place and smooth it onto your form. You want to completely cover the foil with clay to cover it up. The foil keeps the sculpture standing and strong.

5. Once your form is covered by your thin layer of clay, smooth out any edges with your fingers.

6. Think about who this bust is a portrait of, or who it is supposed to look like! Using extra clay, roll tiny balls of clay for eyes and roll out coils for the mouth, nose, and even hair.

7. Use your creativity to create accessories like clothes or a hat!

MATERIALS NEEDED:
- Air-dry clay
- 2-3 sheets of aluminum foil (8.5x11”)
- Toothpick

DID YOU KNOW?
A bust is a three-dimensional portrait of a person from the shoulders up. Many busts were made before we had photographs and were portraits of kings, gods or other famous individuals.

Kehinde Wiley is an artist living today who often works with sculpture. You might have seen his sculpture called “Rumors of War” at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond. Kehinde Wiley often creates busts and portraits. Wiley uses some of the same processes as ancient sculptors. His subjects are contemporary African American individuals wearing street clothes.

If you could make a bust of someone in your life, who would it be?

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SOLs Covered: K.11, 1.12, 2.10, 3.10, 4.10, 5.10

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MAKE A SCULPTURE THAT YOU CAN INTERACT WITH AND THAT MOVES!

STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS

1. Gather 3 sheets of white paper.

2. Color a design on one or two of the sheets. Have fun with color, shapes and line.

3. Cut those sheets into strips. Cut one piece of paper horizontally (longer strips) and cut one piece vertically (shorter strips).

4. Gather a few long and short strips of paper and fold each end inward to create a piece that will attach to the paper.

5. Glue long and short pieces randomly to create archways on the flat surface of the paper.

6. Using extra strips of paper, loop and glue them together through the archways. These pieces should fit loosely and should be movable.

MATERIALS NEEDED:
- White paper
- Crayons or markers
- Glue

DID YOU KNOW?

This lesson connects us to the sculpture works of Richard Serra. Serra is an artist who is best known for very big sculptures that are often outside or take up entire rooms so that you can walk around them and experience them from all sides.

His sculptures are usually created out of simple shapes of metal like rectangles and squares bent into curved shapes, just like the paper in your project.

Can you imagine what it might be like if you were tiny and could walk through your movable paper sculpture? It would feel much like walking around a Richard Serra sculpture.

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SOLs Covered: 1.4, 2.4, 3.5, 3.6, 4.3, 4.4, 5.3, 5.4