

Mixed-Media Art Inspired by Bradd Skubinna

A HANDS-ON ART ACTIVITY DESIGNED BY
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Description

In this lesson students will use a variety of found materials, follow specific directions but create a unique and personal work of art. This lesson is inspired by artist Bradd Skubinna and provides a short bio and examples of his artwork.

Materials

Any found materials! This activity works best with materials that can be easily glued to a paper backing.

Some possibilities include:

- Dried pasta
- Beans
- Toilet paper rolls
- Scrap paper
- Bottle tops
- Candy or snack wrappers
- Pebbles
- Beads
- Crayons
- Cut straws

For application: dixie cups for glue & Q-Tips



MoNA Educator Example



Instructions

Opener

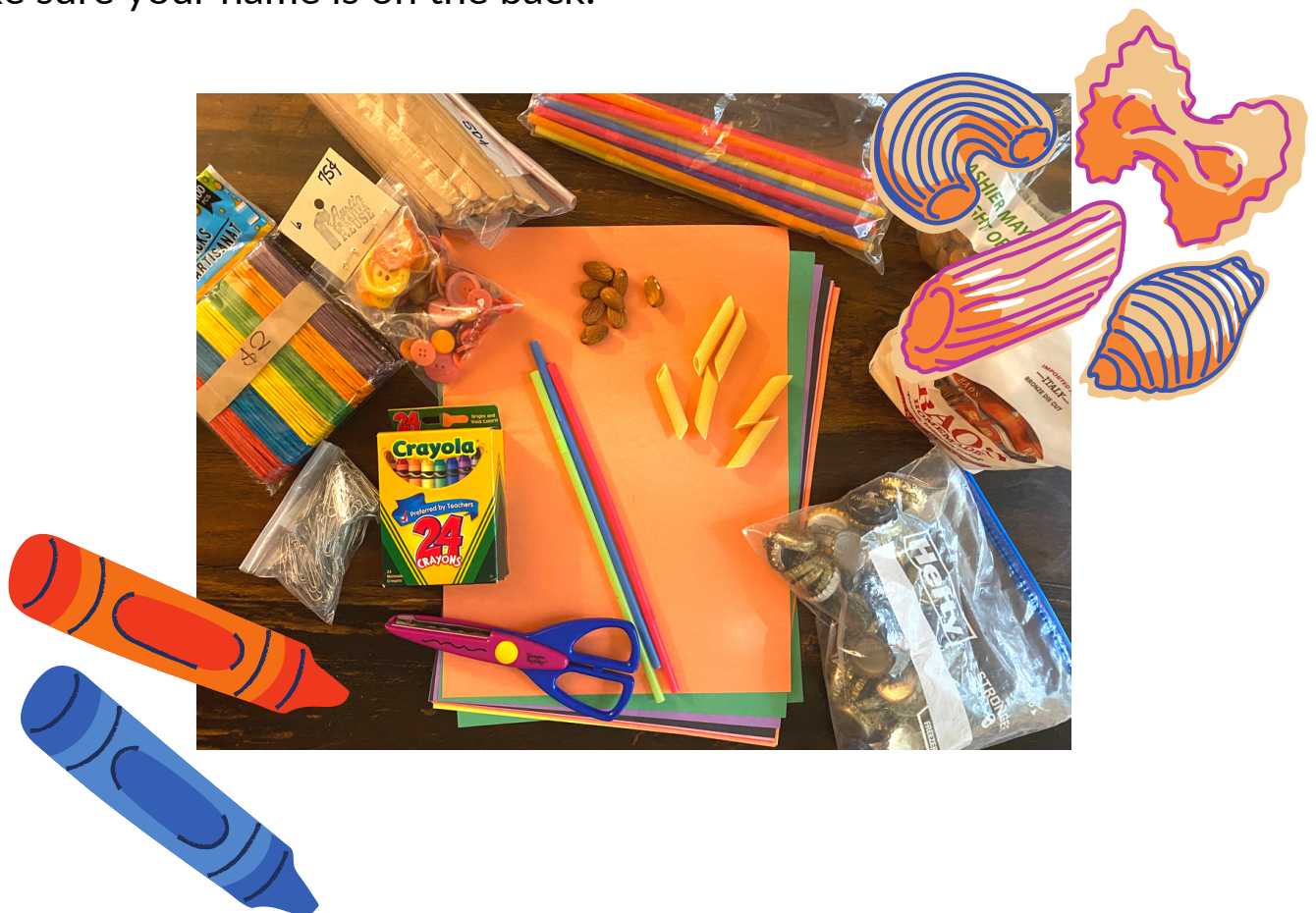
- 1) Discussion.** Start with a discussion about similarities & differences.
- 2) Pair & Share.** In pairs, have students turn to one another and share their similarities: outfits, favorite color, hairstyle, age, etc. After a minute or two, have students share their differences: height, number of siblings, etc.
- 3) Reflection.** Explain that just as we are each unique, when we create art, it is also unique! This is true even when we share similarities, like following the same set of directions.

Preparation

- 1)** Introduce students to the artist and show example images (included).
- 2)** Show students the gathered materials that will be used for the art project.
- 3)** Show students how materials can be turned, folded, varied etc. for the project.
- 4)** Show students how to apply the glue given to them: In dixie cups, with a Q-tip.
- 5)** Explain to students that today they will all be listeners and can try to follow the directions that the teacher says.
- 6)** Teacher should make sure that students' names are written on the back of the artwork.
- 7)** In a small group, have students sit around a table, with materials in the middle.

Directions (Note: you can adjust these to match the materials you've selected)

- 1) Glue 1 button or pasta wheel into the middle of your paper.
 - 2) Glue 4 see-through shapes (cut toilet paper rolls) anywhere onto your paper.
 - 3) Use 3 craft sticks. Make each individual craft stick touch the middle bottle cap.
 - 4) Add 2 pieces of pasta. They must touch the middle circle shape OR one of the craft sticks.
 - 5) Pick 4 cut-paper shapes. Each one must touch one outside edge of your paper.
 - 6) Pick 4-6 straws. Each must somehow touch a craft stick.
 - 7) Use 4-6 small buttons or beans. You may place these anywhere on your artwork.
 - 8) Use 4-6 bottle caps. These may be placed anywhere also.
 - 9) Add squiggles, shapes, faces or animals onto your artwork if you'd like.
- Make sure your name is on the back!



Closer

- 1) Once all of the art is dry, set it out on each child's desk.
- 2) Let the class go on a "Gallery Walk:" keeping their hands behind backs, they walk around and notice how each of their peers used the materials and followed the directions in unique ways.
- 3) After the Gallery Walk, share ideas of what they noticed when reflecting on each others' work. Discuss similarities/differences and what we have noticed in each person's unique masterpiece.
- 4) Give each other positive feedback!

Vocabulary

- ✓ Composition
- ✓ Texture
- ✓ Vertical
- ✓ Horizontal

Learning and State Standards

Fulfills **Washington State Arts Learning Standards:**

- **VA:Cr1.1.K** (Engage in exploration and imaginative play with materials)
- **VA:Cr3.1.K** (Explain the process of making art while creating)
- **VA:Cr2.2.K** (Identify safe and non-toxic art materials, tools, and equipment)



Bradd Skubinna

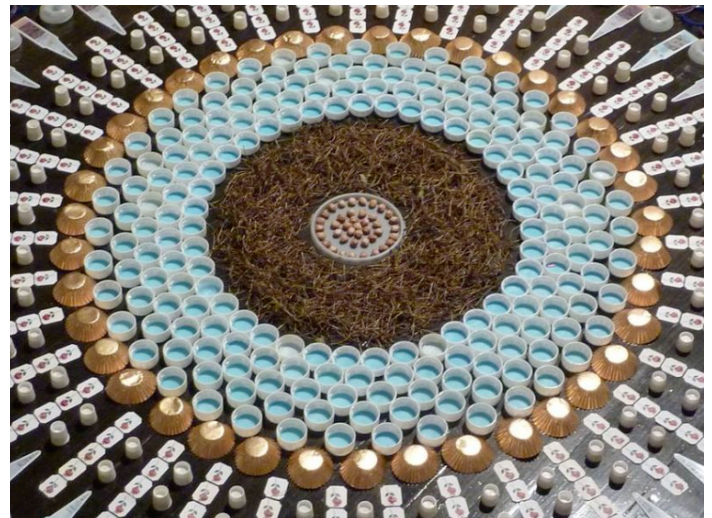
Image credit: Young Kwak
<https://www.inlander.com/spokane/bits-and-baubles/Content?oid=2189319>

Bradd Skubinna lives and works in Spokane, Washington. Skubinna creates artworks out of ordinary objects in his life. This includes items that might normally end up in the trash- like bottle caps, candy wrappers or cherry stems! With his gathered supplies the artist creates large artworks by laying and organizing his materials on the ground.

Bradd Skubinna has a few rules that he follows: using found objects, creating a pattern and having symmetry. However, the materials he uses- and where he creates each artwork- is always changing. Even though he follows a few specific rules each time, every artwork is unique!

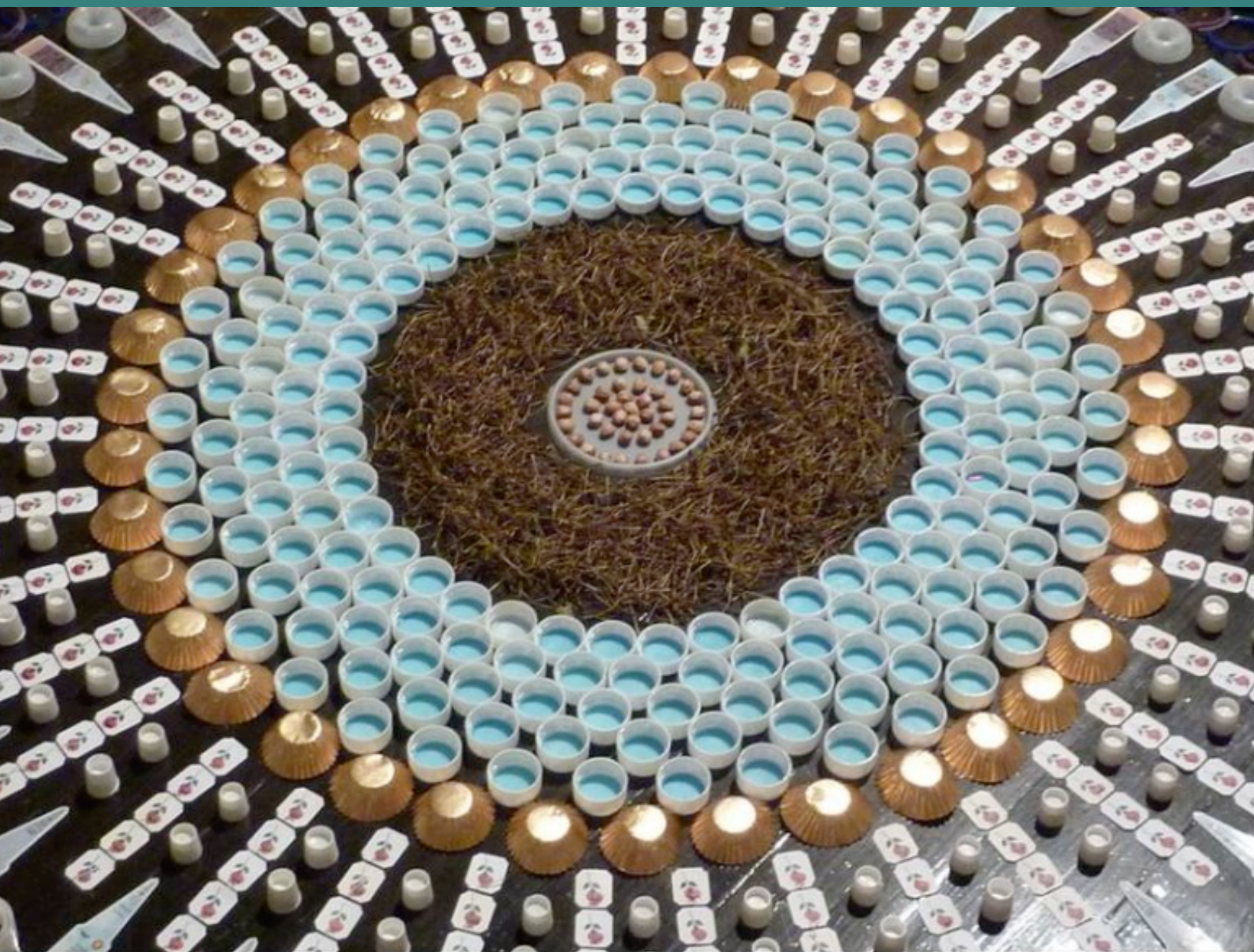


Bradd Skubinna creating an artwork at MoNA
 Image credit: the Museum of Northwest Art



Detail of artwork created by Bradd Skubinna
 Image credit:
<https://www.pechakucha.com/presentations/collaborative-ghosts>

Check out the full-size images included at the end of the lesson. How many different items do you see?



Detail of artwork created by Bradd Skubinna
Image credit: <https://www.pechakucha.com/presentations/collaborative-ghosts>



Bradd Skubinna creating a site-specific artwork at the Museum of Northwest Art
Image credit: Museum of Northwest Art