

Texture, Collage and Poetry

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| Essential Questions | How do artists combine words and texture to convey meaning? Can we combine words with collage and texture to create an art piece? |
| Grade | Kindergarten |
| Time | 40–60 minutes |
| Art Concepts | Texture, collage, layers, text, pattern, poetry, vertical, horizontal, diagonal, visual balance |
| Materials | Scissors, white glue, crayons, pink, green, and blue highlighters (if you have them!) or pink, green, and blue markers, A black Sharpie or black marker, one piece of recycled cardboard (can be a cereal box cut up or part of a box), about the size of a piece of printer paper, three sheets of white paper (can be printer paper or drawing paper), a brown-paper shopping bag, food coloring (for baking), a cup with a bit of water and a brush |
| Artwork in Focus | <u><i>I was born to love not to hate (5), 2014 by Alexandra Grant</i></u> |
| Talking about Art | <p>Click this link to look at <i>I was born to love not to hate</i>.</p> <p>What do you see? What shapes, patterns, or colors can you see?</p> <p>How do you think this artwork was made? How does this piece make you feel? Does it remind you of anything?</p> <p>The artist, Alexandra Grant, uses poetry, or words or text, that guide the creation of her artworks. Can you see the words? They are as important as the patterns, and shapes!</p> <p>This art piece is made up of texture. Texture is how something feels when it is touched, how smooth or rough or soft or scratchy a surface is. Run your fingertips over your shirt's material, now touch your shorts—do they feel the</p> |

same? How do you think this artwork would feel if you could touch it?

What is **collage**? Collage is when things, such as paper, fabric, and small objects are glued to another surface.

This art piece has a lot of texture; here, textures are created from the **layers** of your collage.

Now that you know what texture is, look around your room and name three textures you see. Say them out loud!

Despite all of the parts, this art piece does not feel chaotic or crazy. Why do you think that is?

This art piece has a lot of **visual balance**. It is created with the striped **diagonals** and the words that repeat. Visual Balance is when there is something on one side, and it is repeated on the other. What kinds of patterns do you see?

What is a diagonal? How is it different from **vertical** and **horizontal**? Diagonal is a line that is at an angle, or like half an "X". A vertical line is straight up and down (you are vertical when you stand up). Horizontal is a line that goes side to side (you are horizontal when you lie down).

Making Art

Today you will make a textured piece of art, which includes collaged words. Like Grant, we will incorporate a word right into the work, as an equal part to the collage and texture.

Before you start, think about what *feeling* word you want to include. How do you feel? Grumpy? Happy? Sad? Giggly? Sleepy? Decide on *one* feeling to include.

1. Using bright pink, green, and blue crayons, markers, or highlighters to scribble on a piece of white paper.
2. Cut the scribble paper up into about eight to ten small pieces. Put the pile of scribbles aside.

3. Write your name and your feeling word in black crayon or marker. Fill half of a page with the words. Cut or tear the words up. Put the pile of words to the side.
4. Using your crayons and/or markers, fill a piece of paper with black and gray diagonal stripes. Cut the stripes into eight to ten sections. Put the stripes aside.
5. Cut a piece of paper bag into at least three small triangles and draw stripes on them with a black crayon.
6. Cut the paper bag into at least ten long thin strips.
7. Now start to collage! Alternate between scribbles, names, and diagonals. Fill the whole page!
8. Now, add paper-bag stripes and triangles on top!
9. Squeeze drips of food coloring on your artwork (making sure your table is protected!). Or you can put a drop of food coloring in a cup, add a bit of water and use a brush to drip the color onto the art.

Tips to Remember:

Keep looking at Grant's artwork for inspiration.

You want to play with the layout until it feels balanced visually—for example, if you put stripes on one side, then put stripes on the other.

Reflection

When you look at your art piece, do you see visual balance? What do you need to change if it doesn't feel balanced?

When you close your eyes, can you feel texture on your art piece? What does it feel like?

Curriculum Connections California Arts Standards for Public Schools—Visual Arts

K.VA:Cr1.1: Engage in exploration and imaginative play with materials.K.VA:Cr2.1: Through experimentation, build skills in various media and approaches to art-making.

Common Core Standards English Language Arts

SL.K.2: Confirm understanding of a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media by asking and answering questions about key details and requesting clarification if something is not understood.

L.K.4 Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on kindergarten reading and content.

Prepared by Katie Lipsitt with the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA)
Education Department