Shapes to Express Emotions

Essential Question	How can artists use shapes to convey different emotions?
Grade	2nd
Time	45 minutes
Art Concepts	Portrait, bust, mask
Materials	9-by-12-inch construction paper, scissors, glue stick Optional: patterned or gift-wrapping paper
Artworks in Focus	 Bust of a Youth, 305 BCE - 641 CE by unknown artist Male Bust, 1st-3rd century by unknown artist Bust of a Goddess, 1st century B.C. by unknown artist Mask of Three-Eyed Demon, alternate title: <i>Mitsu me kozō no men</i>, late 19th century by Yamaji Naoharu Noh Mask: Jidō (Young Male Sprite), 17th century by unknown artist Reliquary Bust of St. Marinus the Martyr, circa 1590 probably by Emilia-Romagna Procession Mask, 19th century by unknown artist Mask with Bird Beak, Edo period (1615-1868) by unknown artist
Talking about Art	Throughout history, artists have created busts to honor noteworthy people. Busts are sculptures of people showing just their head down to their shoulders. Artists have also created masks to use in cultural and religious ceremonies. Masks are different than busts in that you can wear them over your face.

What emotions do you see represented in these busts and masks from around the world?

Some are sculpted from clay, others are carved from marble, ivory, or wood. What material would you choose to make a mask out of? Is sculpture the only way artists can show feelings? Can we draw feelings or create faces with emotions using other materials?

Making ArtWe are going to explore a way of making art called collage,
which involves arranging, layering, and attaching pieces of
paper, photographs, fabric, and other materials to a surface.
Today you will be creating a collage portrait that illustrates a
specific emotion.

- Choose a feeling or emotion that you would like to show in your collage. It can be one that you see depicted in the artworks, but it doesn't have to be.
- Look at some of the shapes that the artists used in their busts and masks to show facial expressions. Trace some of the shapes you see (or shapes from your imagination) onto your construction paper and cut them out. Cut out big shapes for the head, neck, and shoulders.
- 3. Arrange the head, neck, and shoulders and glue them down onto another sheet of paper.
- Now, cut and glue smaller shapes on top of those that represent facial features (i.e., eyes, eyebrows, mouth, nose, ears, hair). Hats and clothing from shoulders up can also be added.

5. Look at the bust you have created and share it with your family or classmates!

ReflectionWhat emotion did you choose to depict in your collage
portrait and why? What colors did you choose and why? Do
they help express the emotion you chose? Which shapes
from the busts and masks you saw inspired your own
artwork?

Curriculum Connections California Arts Standards for Public Schools—Visual Arts

2.VA:Cr2.1: Experiment with various materials and tools to explore personal interests in a work of art or design.2.VA:Cr3: Discuss and reflect with peers about choices made in creating artwork. K.VA:Re7.2: Describe what an image represents.

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