

Building Rooms with Shapes and Colors

Essential Question How can we create a room using simple shapes and colors?

Grade 1st

Time 60 minutes

Art Concepts Colors, shapes

Materials Different colored sheets of construction paper *or* white paper and crayons/markers, one larger sheet of white paper, scissors, glue or tape, pencil

Artwork in Focus [*Studio Hollywood Hills House by David Hockney*](#)

Talking about Art Look closely at *Studio Hollywood Hills House* by Los Angeles artist David Hockney. What **shapes** do you notice in this painting? What **colors** do you see?

Do you think this painting looks exactly like a real place, or do you think the artist changed some of the colors and shapes to make the painting? What makes you think that?

Hockney is an artist from England who moved to L.A. but lives in both places. When he moved to L.A., he was inspired by the things, places, and people he saw, and he began to paint them, including a series of paintings of swimming pools!

Hockney loves to paint the world around him, and he has painted many portraits of his friends and the places that inspire him.

This is a painting of the artist's home here in L.A. Today you are going to choose a room in your home and make art about it using simple shapes and colors.

Making Art

1. Look carefully at a room in your home. Look for shapes like rectangles, triangles, circles, and squares. Look for colors, too.
2. Draw the shapes you see on a few sheets of construction paper. The color of the construction paper doesn't have to match the real color you see in the room. Use all different colors! If you don't have construction paper, you can also use crayons or markers to add color to white paper. The more colors the better!
3. Cut out the different shapes you drew.
4. As an extra challenge, try cutting out some shapes *without* drawing them first: just start cutting and imagine the shapes as you go.
5. If you're not ready to use scissors or you can't find them, you can tear shapes with your hands.
6. Now you are going to construct the room using your cut-out pieces of paper! Arrange the shapes on a blank piece of paper. Don't forget details like furniture, lamps, plants, or anything else you want in the room.

Remember, you can add imaginary details to the room.

7. Glue the shapes down!

Reflection

How is your art similar to the actual room that you were looking at in your home? How is it different? Why is it fun or interesting sometimes to change what you see when you are making it into art?

Look at Hockney's painting again. Imagine you were to step inside this room. What would you do? Would you sit in front of the crackling fire? Would you sit on the orange chair or the blue chair, watching the TV? Would you eat a snack on the red carpet and look at the painting of the orange flowers? Write a sentence about what you would do in this room, making sure to be specific (like "orange chair" or "blue chair"—not just "chair").

Curriculum Connections California Arts Standards for Public Schools—Visual Arts

1.VA:Cr1.2: Use observation and investigation in preparation for making a work of art. PK.VA:Cr2.1: Use a variety of art-making tools. K.VA:Re8: Interpret art by identifying subject matter and describing relevant details.

Common Core State Standards English Language Arts

SL.1.4: Describe people, places, things, and events with relevant details, expressing ideas and feelings clearly.

SL.1.2: Ask and answer questions about key details in a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media.

Common Core State Standards Math

1.G.A.2: Compose two-dimensional shapes (rectangles, squares, trapezoids, triangles, half-circles, and quarter-circles) or three-dimensional shapes (cubes, right rectangular prisms, right circular cones, and right circular cylinders) to create a composite shape, and compose new shapes from the composite shape.

Prepared by Jenny Ziomek with the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA)
Education Department.