

“Collage Musical Instruments”



Objective: Create a collage with a border demonstrating rhythm

Materials

- 12x18-inch colored construction paper
- Construction paper scraps
- Scissors
- Glue

Motivation

- Introduce students to Romare Bearden.
- Search “Romare Bearden Jazz” and you’ll have a plethora of images to inspire your students. Put these images into a quick slideshow!
- Talk about collage basics including careful cutting and gluing.
- Explore rhythm in art. Compare and contrast this with rhythm in music.
- Play with creating shapes that represent sounds.

Step 1: Break Down Instruments

Have students choose what instruments they’d like to create. Students can be inspired by their favorite music or maybe even by instruments they play themselves.

Have students sketch out their instruments and look for the basic shapes. Having printed photos of different instruments can help immensely with this step.

Step 2: Arrange Shapes

Once they have a plan, students should cut out the shapes that will make up their instruments. Then, students should arrange them on their paper. While creating, students should think about balance and color. Once satisfied with the arrangement, they can begin to glue.

Step 3: Create Border

The border should emphasize the sounds and rhythms made by the instruments. Encourage students to think about how they might translate sounds into shapes.

Tip: Encourage more advanced students to pick more complex instruments.

Tip: It’s wise to do a gluing review before starting this project to ensure neat results.