

Beyond the Box **Architecture Inspired by Frank Gehry**

Have you ever thought about redesigning your house? World famous architect, Frank Gehry, lived in a California house that was very much like a box. Using his creative genius, he transformed his house into an innovative work of architectural sculpture. Many people come to see his house. His other designs can be seen around the world – museums, bandshells, and theaters, as well as private residences – all exhibiting his distinctive style.

http://www.greatbuildings.com/buildings/Gehry_house.html



Teacher-created “beyond the box” architectural building sculpture

Target Grade: 2

Goal (Terminal Objective): Students will construct “beyond the box” architectural sculptures of homes or public buildings after learning about the unique style of Frank Gehry. This project will give students a better understanding of architectural concepts for the 21st century. It will make them aware of architecture and how the landscape around it is affected.

Objective: Students will learn about the unique architectural style of Frank Gehry. They will construct models of their original architectural façade sketches, starting with a box form and building beyond with a variety of mixed-media materials to create a private home or public art building. They will think about the location of their buildings and how they will enhance the surrounding landscapes.

National Standards:

Visual Arts Grades K-4 Content Standard 1: Understanding and applying media, techniques, and processes

Visual Arts Grades K-4 Content Standard 2: Using knowledge of structure and functions

Visual Arts Grades K-4 Content Standard 3: Choosing and evaluating a range of subject matter, symbols, and ideas

Visual Arts Grades K-4 Content Standard 5: Reflecting upon and assessing the characteristics and merits of their work and the work of others

Visual Arts Grades K-4 Content Standard 6: Making connections between visual arts and other disciplines (**Geography and Environmental Science Cross Curriculum Connections**)

Purpose: Students will focus on creating 3-dimensional art forms. They will view many buildings designed by Frank Gehry and learn paper sculpture techniques, repetition of pattern and design, and mixed-media applications.

New Vocabulary: Frank Gehry, architecture, model, landscape, façade, paper sculpture, public art buildings, embellish, interior, exterior

Materials:



#22-1403 Washable glue sticks



#22-1101 craft glue



#35-1436 natural craft sticks (not shown)



#22-1593 permanent markers



#22-1506 metallic markers



#22-1530 classic markers



#23-5027 60 sheet sketch pad



#23-5027 60 Sheet Sketch Pad



#22-0914 12 ct. Pointed Tip Student Scissors Best-Pack



#23-40xx 50 ct. Construction Paper

cardboard bases, for box form, paper towels to support insides of boxes, found objects for embellishment

Time: 3-4 lessons (45-60 minutes each)

Introduction and Motivation (Set):

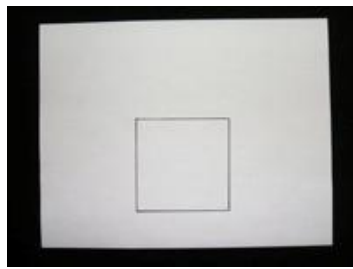
Teacher introduces students to Frank Gehry and architecture as an art form. Students look at several Gehry buildings found in many parts of the world. What is unique about Gehry's style? Are his buildings large? Are his buildings colorful? How are his buildings used? Does he think about the interiors of his buildings as well as the exteriors? How/why did Gehry develop his style of wavy, swooping shapes? Does his art remind you of the ocean? How is his new building in Panama different from his previous designs?

<http://www.biomuseopanama.org/en/building/index.html>

<http://www.arcspace.com/architects/gehry/panama/index.htm>

1. Teacher introduces new vocabulary.
2. Teacher shows students before and after pictures of Gehry's home in California. If you were an architect, how would you like to change the exterior of your home? How would the changes affect your community?

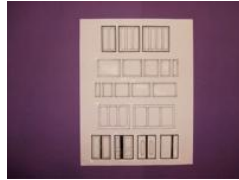
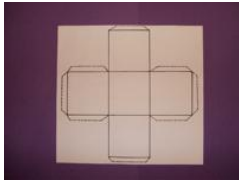
Teacher shows students a teacher-created "beyond the box" architectural building inspired by the ideas of Frank Gehry. Students brainstorm ideas for their designs that will extend from a basic box form. They make thumbnail sketches of creative facades to be used as references for their three-dimensional models.



Teacher-created 2-D façade template and sketch

Lesson 1:

Teacher presents photos of Frank Gehry buildings to students. Teacher demonstrates cutting and folding the box template and adding windows/doors as desired, either by freehand drawing or cutting/pasting/coloring windows/doors from the teacher-made template. Teacher demonstrates pasting the box together, stuffing it with paper towels for added support and attaching it to the cardboard base.



Teacher-created box template and doors/windows template



Teacher-created box form attached to base.

Lesson 2:

Teacher demonstrates a variety of paper sculpture ideas (cutting, folding, coiling, twisting, looping, pop-ups, etc.) Students make several paper sculpture shapes. Teacher reviews repetition of patterns and demonstrates adding color to the paper sculpture forms and the basic box. Students colorize as desired. Teacher demonstrates attaching the paper sculpture forms to the basic box and students attach their paper sculpture forms.



Preparing paper sculpture shapes and attaching them to the basic architectural box

Lesson 3:

Teacher presents students with a variety of mixed-media found objects for desired embellishment. Students select found objects and embellish their buildings.



Adding found objects to embellish the architectural sculpture

Activities:

(1) Guided Practice:

- A. Students review architecture and 3-dimensional art. They are introduced to Frank Gehry and his unique style of architecture. They learn several techniques for paper sculpture. They create original patterns to colorize.
- B. Students construct models of innovative houses/buildings for their communities.

(2) Independent Practice and Check for Understanding:

- A. Teacher circulates through the room during student work time, answering questions and offering support as needed.
- B. Teacher notes students' understanding of directions and reviews with the class if necessary.

(3) Closure

- A. Students show their completed "beyond the box" architectural models to classmates and discuss how they will enhance the landscape around them. Models are displayed on tables around the room.
- B. Students discuss the importance of respect for individuality.

Evaluation:

Level One -- The model conveys knowledge of Frank Gehry's unique style of architecture. It shows excellent understanding of 3-dimensional paper sculpture, repetition of pattern/design and mixed media applications. The completed model is original and detailed. Craftsmanship is excellent.

Level Two -- The model conveys good knowledge of Frank Gehry's unique style of architecture. It shows good understanding of 3-dimensional paper sculpture, repetition of pattern/design, and mixed media applications. The completed model is original and detailed. Craftsmanship is good.

Level Three -- The student has made an effort to convey some knowledge of Frank

Gehry's unique style of architecture. It shows some understanding of 3-dimensional paper sculpture, repetition of pattern/design, and mixed media applications. The completed model is original, but lacks detail. Craftsmanship is fair.

Level Four -- The artwork does not convey knowledge Frank Gehry's unique style of architecture. It shows little understanding of 3-dimensional paper sculpture, repetition of pattern/design, and mixed media applications. The artwork is original, but lacks detail. Craftsmanship is poor.

Extension: Using classroom blocks/legos/small boxes, etc. students will work in small groups to build housing developments where communities of people can work and live without the use of cars.

Resources:

<http://www.pritzkerprize.com/gehry.htm#...about%20Frank%20Gehry>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frank_Gehry

<http://architect.architecture.sk/frank-owen-gehry-architect/frank-owen-gehry-architect.php>

<http://www.weisman.umn.edu/exhibits/Frankbio.html>

<http://www.notablebiographies.com/news/Ca-Ge/Gehry-Frank.html>

<http://www.atlantiaryards.com/html/ay/gehry.html>

http://www.es-cat.org/~rclarkinia/pdfs/design_principles.pdf

Gehry's architectural designs

http://whatdoiknow.org/archives/snaps/chicago_gehry.jpg

Chicago

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/antsolar/505352344/>

Iowa City

<http://www.bluffton.edu/~sullivanm/gehryca/norton.html>

Norton house, Venice

<http://www.businessinnovationinsider.com/archives/Guggenheim%20Bilbao%202-thumb.jpg>

Guggenheim Museum, Bilbao, Spain

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