

NOVEMBER: Native American Art

Art Appreciation with Northwest Coast Art

Essential Question: How can I celebrate Native American Heritage Month with art?



Supplies Needed:	Art Vocabulary:	Learning Target:	Meets WA Learning Standard:
Construction paper: red, blue, green, black	Shape	Students will be able to emulate Coast Salish art.	VA:Cn10.1.4a
White paper for substrate			
Scissors	Collage		
Glue stick	substrate		
Traditional Shape Worksheet			

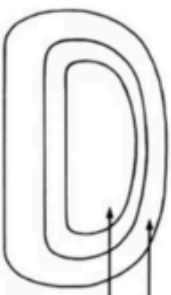
Instructions:	
1. Show examples of contemporary Northwest Coast Indigenous artist Douglas Reynolds here . Alternatively, see examples of traditional Native American artwork from the Pacific Northwest on this map . Look for repeating shapes that can be used to represent animals and objects.	
2. Next, show the provided worksheet (<i>image credit: Raven Publishing</i>) and discuss the traditional shapes: Ovid, “U” shapes, “S” shapes, and relief shapes, used in Coast Salish art.	
3. Ask students to point out the traditional shapes they see in the artwork.	
4. Discuss briefly what collage is, how it means “to paste” in French. For the K-2 learners, show them how to rip shapes into their paper and discuss size/weight of the paper. Larger shapes have more weight than smaller shapes. For the 3-6 learners, discuss how shapes can be cut out of paper and pasted next to or on top of each other. Show students what a substrate is (the background piece of paper used to glue everything onto it).	
<p>For 3-6 grade:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Using a pencil, draw several Ovid, “U”, “S”, crescents, circles, and relief shapes on different colors of construction paper. Make sure to draw different sizes of the traditional shapes and remind students to make them large enough that it is easy to cut out. Have students get creative, rearranging these different shapes like a puzzle to create a Northwest coast animal. Don’t forget to layer the shapes too. Glue the pieces down onto white substrate paper. 	<p>For K-2nd grade:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Give each student a white piece of paper as a substrate. Paper size is up to the teacher, we suggest a long, tall piece. Show students examples of totem poles and how each section represents a different animal or element. Show students how to rip the paper into simple shapes like squares and ovals. Talk about how a totem pole needs to be balanced, so the heavier/bigger shapes should go on the bottom. Some have wings too!
Optional: Use Mod Podge and a sponge brush (provided in art cabinets) to seal the entire collage.	

Pro Tips for Success:

- There is no right or wrong way to do this project, make changes or alterations as you see best for your students. The goal is to expose students to Northwest Coast art and traditional shapes.
- For K-2 students who work quickly, have them draw details or faces onto their paper sections. Or, give them another substrate and have them make their totem pole taller.

- For 3-6 students who work quickly, they can do another animal, learn about the symbolism of their animal, or write a short artist's statement about their artwork:
Name of artist
Title of artwork
Media type (materials used) & size
A short description of the work and how it celebrates Coast Salish art.
- For students/classes who might be interested in exploring symbolism, you can show them this [site](#) by Haida artist Mike Bells. Discuss how symbols of animals can be represented in a person's character. What animal does the student think best represents them?
- For those who want to dive deeper into Native American culture and experiences, visit [The Cedarbox Experience](#).

DRAWN PRIMARY OVOID



PAINTED PRIMARY OVOID



Ovoid

in

Pacific Northwest Coast Art Style

© Raven Publishing Inc. www.ravenpublishing.com



U shape



fineline split



inner solid red split U

U Shape

in

Pacific Northwest Coast Art Style

© Raven Publishing Inc. www.ravenpublishing.com



S shape



Formline S shape

- with relieving split

S Shape

in

Pacific Northwest Coast Art Style

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Trigon



Quadron



Quinton



Crescent

Relief Shapes

in

Pacific Northwest Coast Art Style

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Circle