



## LESSON PLAN: ELEVATION PART I

**Title:** Paper Dolls

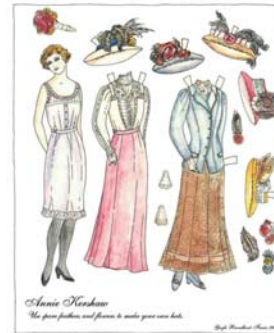
**Grades:** 8-12

**Medium:** Cut paper

**Author:** Robin Przybysz

**Class time required:** 5 hours

### Sample Paper Dolls:



### OVERVIEW:

Students will create paper dresses to represent San Diego Visual Arts Network *Art Meets Fashion*. The students will be using five elements from the group *Elevation: Ash, Mud, Seed, Water and Crystal*. The paper dress comes from a historical background of paper dolls and moves into an avant-garde look of the 1960's style of Pop Art. The creation of paper dresses from the advanced middle school class will be the stimulus for the upper school Art I classes second semester. The upper school Art I classes will create accessories: purses, hats, shoes, jewelry, etc. to accompany the paper dresses.

Paper Dolls are a 2-D figure drawn or printed on paper with accompanying clothing. France was the first known country to have paper dolls in the 18<sup>th</sup> C. during the reign of King Louis XV. They were hand painted figures with costumes created for the entertainment of wealthy adults. It is a possibility that paper dolls were created by dress makers to show the current fashion. In 1791, London had the "English Doll" which was a female figure, 8" tall, with a wardrobe of under clothes, headdresses, corsets and six outfits. Paper Dolls showed the culture around the world. It also highlighted popular figures from the Opera, stage and screen, royalty, political figures and later TV. The first American paper dolls were made in Boston in 1812. During the Pioneer times, paper was rare and not wasted on toys. If someone did receive paper dolls they took special care to keep them safe. In 1920's Milton Bradley's toy company became the largest producer of paper dolls. The 1920-50's were considered the Golden Age of paper dolls. Even during the Great Depression paper toys could still be afforded. In the 1960's, Barbie could possibly be beginning of the decline of the paper doll; although, in 1990 Barbie was the most popular paper doll sold.

For more information: [www.ArtMeetsFashion.org](http://www.ArtMeetsFashion.org)

[San Diego Visual Arts Network](http://www.SDVAN.net) ( Public Charity 501 (c) 3 EIN #205910283)

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Over the years, paper dolls have come in various stages of modesty from permanently painted clothes to multiple layers of clothing or printed underwear with tabbed clothing to accompany the dolls.

#### **SUMMARY:**

Embark on a mixed media adventure through an apocalypse to a process of metamorphosis, revealing a rebirth into an innovative world of new life, new ideas, and new purpose. The expedition begins with the black Ash; the destruction of one world that has witnessed the devastation of an explosive death. As the Ash decomposes into the Earth's surface it slowly metamorphosis into a new foundation of the neutral brown Mud. The blank slate of the Mud lies fertile for the commencement of conception towards a new world. Green Seeds sprout from Mud revealing the birth into life. Blue Waters nourish the seeds to grow and replenish the world to come into being. White Crystal symbolizes new beginnings of life without defect, pure without blemish. This recreation of the five elements: ash, mud, seed, water and crystal will bring a fresh life from the old through reinventing, repurposing and recycling what once was. May this intense journey fill you with hope for a fresh start!

#### **HISTORY OF PAPER DOLLS**

#### **OBJECTIVES:**

The students will step back in history seeing the use of paper dolls as an inexpensive toy, yet used by royalty to see the fashions of the day. The students will also use the elements of design, shape and texture, to create cut paper clothing for the paper dolls. The students will begin by creating fashions for paper dolls. Two fashion styles complete with accessories and styling will be assigned. Suggested ideas of events, articles of clothing and accessories are attached to help stimulate thinking. The students will use cut paper to create the fashions and accessories.

#### **CHALLENGES:**

The student's homework journals will consist of 5 challenges similar to that of the T.V. show Project Runway. Each week will present a new challenge. The students are to create a full design complete with accessories and styling. Colored pencil will be the medium for the challenges. (See attached for the journal challenges.)

#### **MATERIALS:**

- Paper of various colors, printed, and plain
- Scissors
- Paper glue (rubber cement or glue sticks)
- Light boxes
- Sketch journal

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#### **TEACHER PREPARATION:**

- Research history of paper dolls and paper dresses.
- Create a power point of paper dolls and paper dresses.
- Create a stencil paper doll form for students to use.

#### **PROCEDURE:**

- Show power point of paper dolls; teach history of their origin through present day.
- Show examples of paper dolls
- Show example of cut paper clothing
- Students will sketch two different outfits selecting from choices attached
- Once sketches are made, clothing can be created using various papers to cut and glue into fashion
- Light boxes can be used to get an exact fitting to the paper doll

#### **PAPER DOLL IDEAS:**

**EVENTS:** Casual, Party, Formal , Seasonal: Fall, Winter, Spring, Summer. P.J.'s, Beachwear, Cotillion, Wedding, Special Occasion, Holiday Wear

**ARTICLES OF CLOTHING:** Slacks: capri's, leggings, shorts, boy pants, jeans, skorts; Dresses; Skirts: pencil, tulip, mini, maxi; Jackets: coats, vests, sweaters, shrugs, ponchos, shawls, wrap; Shirts: t-shirts, blouses, tanks, halters, tube tops, tunics

**ACCESSORIES:** Head gear: Hats, headbands; Foot coverings: boots, shoes, sandals, slippers tights, socks; Jewelry: necklaces, bracelets, earrings; purses, belts, scarves; Eyecover: sunglasses, goggles for swimming and skiing

#### **TEACHER TIPS:**

- Teacher observation, suggestions, and guidance will continue throughout assignment.

#### **CA CONTENT STANDARDS:**

- 1.0 Artistic Perception
- 2.7 Design a work of public art appropriate to reflect a location
- 3.3 Identify major works of art created by women and describe impact of those works on society.

#### **BIBLIOGRAPHY/WEBOGRAPHY:**

Google:

- <http://collectdolls.about.com/library/ucpaperdolls.htm>
- <http://www.opdag.com/history.html>

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