



LESSON PLAN: ELEVATION PART 2

Title: Paper Dresses
Grades: 8-12
Medium: Paper Art
Author: Robin Przybysz
Class Time: 8-12hours

Sample Paper Dresses



For more information: www.ArtMeetsFashion.org

[San Diego Visual Arts Network](http://SanDiegoVisualArtsNetwork) (Public Charity 501 (c) 3 EIN #205910283)
2487 Montgomery Avenue, Cardiff by the Sea, CA 92007 www.SDVAN.net 760.943.0148 info@sdvisualarts.net



OVERVIEW:

In the mid 1960's having a futuristic mind set was forward thinking. American astronauts were traveling in space, American T.V. had the cartoon The Jetsons, a family who traveled in flying cars that compacted into a brief case and had a home that was in the stratosphere equipped with a robotic maid. Why not disposable clothing? It seemed the wave of the future. There seemed a very real possibility that one day, we, the human population could in fact live in space. As one textile designer stated for Life Magazine, "Who is going to do laundry in space?" Scott Paper Company introduced paper dresses in 1966. They were promoting a new line of "Color Explosion" paper products. The company printed two dresses with gift wrap designs, one a black and white pop art pattern and the other an orange-red, yellow, and black paisley arrangement. In fact, the dresses did not only consist of paper products, but also rayon webbing that was more durable than standard paper. It also gave a drape like effect. The pattern was an A-line shift cut from two pieces with no sleeves and a patch pocket placed on the hip. The dresses sold for a mere \$1.25. Orders grew to over a half million and the Scott Paper Company ended the campaign because they didn't want to turn into a dress manufacturer.

When Scott Paper Company ended the paper dresses other companies stepped in. By 1967 the demand for paper dresses was high and overwhelming. This trend of paper clothes with wild designs represented interest in combining fashion with the Pop Art style that emerged in America during the 1960's with Andy Warhol at the helm of the movement. Fashionable paper clothes died out along with the Pop Art style at the end of the 1960's. Since the end of paper fashion, a more utilitarian use of paper garments has taken its place and continues with items such as: doctor office/hospital disposable gowns, diapers, restaurant bibs and nuclear plant uniforms.

Pop Art: Pop Art was a style of art that happened in the 60's in the U.S. It was to appeal to the masses with popular imagery that was seen or used by main stream America. The idea behind this style was to bring art to the common public by making it affordable. How would one accomplish this feat? Mass Production! Multiple images could be printed in large quantities so that each image was a copy, not a one-of-a-kind and therefore could sell for a smaller price. There was no originality of the inspiration for ideas. Art was made from what had already been, although each Pop Artist had a very distinctive style on how they altered, embellished, or enhanced the previously identifiable imagery. Although Pop Art was never a formal movement and only had a lifespan of approximately three years, its legacy impacts art history in a powerful way.

OBJECTIVE:

Students will take from history the style and fashion of paper dolls and the 'pop art' creation of paper dresses to create a wearable fashionable dress from paper and paper products. The paper dresses will be a marriage of fashion and art using the elements of design: shape and texture.

MATERIALS:

- Paper of various types
- Scissors
- Glue guns, spray glue
- Paint, dye

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- Measurements of students for individual dresses

TEACHER PREPARATION:

- Research of paper dolls and paper dresses
- Create a power point of paper dolls and paper dresses

PROCEDURES:

- Students will view power point of paper dresses for stimulus to create their own paper dresses
- Students will select two elements from Group Elevations journey: Ash, Mud, Water, Seed, Crystal
- Students will create drawings based on both elements they select
- The strongest drawings from each student will be the element of the paper dress they will create.
- Each student will have a life size body silhouette cut to use as a guide for making the paper dress to fit.
- Students will create a paper dress with various types of papers and paper products.

Water Think: ocean, sea, waters of any kind, streams, rain

Colors: Blues and greens

Ash Think: explosion, fire, death, smoke, volcanic eruption

Colors: black, gray, red, red-orange

Mud Think: earth, mud, rock formation, erosion of earth, mountain sides, sandscapes

Colors: browns, possibly muted blues and oranges

Crystal Think: Shimmery, ice, glaciers, prisms, reflections

Colors: iridescent pearl, pink, white, cream, reflection of pale/pastel colors

Seed Think: seedlings, saplings, flower buds, anything organic that would grow

Colors: spring greens, vibrant colors of purples, fuchsias, aqua blues etc.

Paper Products Ideas for dresses:

- Napkins
- Paper plates
- Tissue paper
- Colored paper
- Cardboard
- Phone books
- Pages of books
- Card stock
- Packing paper
- Wrapping paper
- Homemade paper

Note: All paper used for dresses needs to be durable to stay attached to the dress. Paper needs to be able to be painted or have color of any kind applied to it if necessary. Think outside the box and be creative.

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TEACHER TIPS:

- Guide students in making choices that would best benefit their design
- Problem solve with student as they work on the dresses
- Encourage students through the process.

CA CONTENT STANDARDS:

- 1.0 Artistic Perception
- 1.2 Analyze Art Elements and Principles of Design
- 2.3 Create an original work of art
- 2.4 Design and create an expressive figurative (dress) sculpture.
- 5.4 Work collaboratively with a community artist to create a work of art

BIBLIOGRAPHY/WEBOGRAPHY:

- <http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/museum/artifacts/archives/00391.asp>
- http://www.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://modernurbanstyle.com/wp-content/uploads/2009/07/newspaperdress.jpg&imgrefurl=http://modernurbanstyle.com/2009/07/newspaper-dress/&usq=_rc5RpmGzIBeFcPdlnsR
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Students finished paper dresses from lesson plan above for team Elevation, 2011



Water



Ash



Mud



Crystal



Seed

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