



Program Guide

Reinforcing Math Concepts thru Art (Marth) - Nature Mandalas Kris Hurst

Logistics/Equipment

Each student needs a desk or table that the artist will cover with a rectangular piece of fabric. Classroom teacher can collect materials with students on a nature walk before artist visit or have students bring in materials from home. Artist will also bring in plenty of natural materials for students to use.

Objectives

- Students will understand rotational symmetry through the works of Andy Goldsworthy.
- Students will have a hands on experience in mandala making.
- Students will gain an understanding of concentric circles and pattern.

Content

1. Artist will begin program by talking about abstract art, showing examples of personal work and helping identify it.
2. Artist will showcase abstract 'land artist' Andy Goldsworthy and his use of rotational symmetry and pattern.
3. Artist will display materials and talk about how student might use their mandala.
4. Artist will go over the steps in making a mandala. Students will choose materials and make their own.

Pre-Program Activities

1. What shapes are symmetrical?
2. What around us in the classroom is symmetrical or rotationally symmetrical?
3. What things wouldn't work as well if they weren't symmetrical?
4. Why do you think an artist would be interested in symmetry?

Activity: Take your students on a nature walk to collect materials for the mandalas.

Post-Program Activities

1. Artist will take pictures of completed mandalas to be sent or matted and given to the teacher.
2. Encourage students to make nature mandalas in their yards (or at a park) using grass or dirt as the canvas.
3. Set up a station in the classroom that has multiple materials that students could use to put together a mandala. Mandala making is used in meditation and can have calming properties when students need a brain break.

Send Us Feedback!

Loved it? Have suggestions? Let us know your thoughts!

Go to www.artsforlearningindiana.org/resources/program-experience-survey/ to fill out the program feedback survey.

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About the Program:

Students will learn about rotational symmetry through creating a mandala with natural materials.

This is a perfect fit for students just beginning to learn math concepts or those that need to reinforce previous learning.

This program supports these standards:

Pattern and Sequence
Geometry
Symmetry
Generating artistic ideas and work

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Kris Hurst



Kris is an abstract artist who enjoys working with a variety of mediums including paint, mixed media and found materials. Kris has taught art classes in schools and community centers, with a particular focus on the connections between math and art. She loves trying new things with her students, where everyone learns something new. Kris is a graduate of Indiana University with a degree in Fine Arts. She has exhibited her work in the Midwest and has been recognized by the Mayor's office for her work.

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Your student had an Arts for Learning program visit their school!

Arts for Learning is a nonprofit organization that has been bringing live arts experiences into schools and community sites across Indiana for more than 50 years.

Ask your student about:

Who is the nature artist you learned about today?

How do you make a nature mandala?

How can we make one at home?

See if they recall these vocabulary words:

Abstract Art

Concentric Circles

Mandala

Pattern

Rotational Symmetry