

Going Buggy Over Bugs!

Class Project- Bug Quilt
Cross-Curricular-Art & Science
Grades 3-6

Description:

Encourage teamwork by having all students contribute to this exploration of a creepy, crawly segment of the natural world. While this quilt bursts with bugs, you could use a similar design to examine wildflowers, leaves of various species of trees, shapes of reptiles or of mammals. Your students will be inspired to create an array of unusually patterned papers by using our exciting paint applicators. These papers will be used to create the "quilt squares" that make up this attractive and informative work of art that could be hung as a banner for all to see.

Objectives:

- Students will experiment with a variety of paint applicators and will decide which ones are most effective for their work.
- Students will demonstrate knowledge of insects by creating a representation of one of their own choice.

Materials:

Choose some unusual paint applicators from the list below

Paint Bellows (404036-705)

Paint Pipettes (217557-705)

Funny Floppy Foam Brushes (245506-705)

Dab-It Brushes (424869-705)

Funny Brushes (443438-705)

Finger Loops Applicator (015649-705)

Other recommended supplies

Spectra™ Duo Finish Art Kraft® Rolls, Brite Blue (choose any color) (006738-705)

Fadeless® All-Purpose Art Paper, 60-Sheet Pkg., 12" x18" (006093-705)

Scrap Paper

Sax® Versatemp® Trial Set of 12 Pints (439550-705)

Art Utility Cups, Pkg. of 200, 5.5-Oz. (247030-705)

Colored Paper Art Tape, 10-Color Assortment (006390-705)

Yes! Paste Glue, 19-Oz. Jar (401632-705)

Books or Magazines with large pictures of insects



Directions:

1. Determine a color scheme for the quilt so that the appearance of the finished quilt is unified. Have a variety of paint and paper colors that your students can choose from within that color scheme.
2. Allow your students to experiment painting with a variety of paint applicators on scrap paper. What kind of overall pattern can they create with the applicators?
3. Give each student two full pieces of the Fadeless Paper and have them recreate their two favorite patterns, each pattern covering a whole sheet of paper. Make sure the students understand they will be sharing the patterned paper.
4. After the paper dries, cut it into squares varying in size from 3" to 6" depending on the number of students in the class and the desired size of the finished project.
5. Cut 4" and 6" squares of unpainted Fadeless Paper.
6. Have the students each select a different bug to draw. Talk about the main parts of a bug: head, thorax, abdomen, 6 legs, two antennae and often wings. Demonstrate possible ways to draw these parts for different bugs. Emphasize keeping the legs and antennae thick enough so that they will be able to be cut out.
7. Determine which size square the bugs will be glued to. Have each student draw their bugs on the back of one of the patterned squares of that size. Be sure to leave a border between the bug and the edges of the paper. Cut out the bug, apply Yes! Paste Glue (as this will make a strong non-wrinkling bond) to the back side, and center it on a square of plain paper.
8. Determine the layout of the quilt by laying out the bug squares on the center of a large section of Dual-Surface Roll Paper (wait to cut the paper until it is determined how large a piece will be needed). It may be desirable to have several borders around each bug square or none. You can create borders for the quilt as a whole with smaller squares of patterned or plain Fadeless Paper and from Colored Art Tape.

9. PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER. Depending on the ages and size of the group you are working with, you may wish to do this part on your own, or enlist the help of some reliable students. Now that a layout is partially determined, begin gluing things down. Try to balance the colors and patterns. The only limits on this quilt are the limits of your imagination. Make sure to leave an extra foot of roll paper at the top in case it would be desirable to create a rod pocket for a dowel in order to hang the quilt.

National Standards:

Content Standard #1: Understanding and applying media, techniques and processes.

Grades K-4: Students will use different media, techniques, and process to communicate ideas, experiences and stories.

Content Standard #3: Choosing and evaluating a range of subject matter, symbols and ideas.

Grades K-4: Students will select and use subject matter, symbols and ideas to communicate meaning.

California Visual Arts Standards:

For California Standards addressed in this Lesson Plan Idea, see the following table:

Grade Level	Standards			
Third	1.5*	2.2	4.2*	
Fourth	1.2*	2.6	4.3*	
Fifth	1.3*	2.4	2.5	4.3*
Sixth	1.3*	2.4	4.3*	

*Standards marked with an asterisk are not specifically mentioned in the Lesson Plan Idea but could easily be applied to the lesson.