

“Positive Negative Designs”



Objective: Students will create a design using positive and negative space.

Materials

- Construction Paper 12x12 and 6x6
- Scissors
- Glue Stick

Motivation

- Talk about Positive and Negative Space and show examples.
- Demonstrate how easy it can be to create a positive negative design, while having students identify the terms throughout the demo.

Step 1: Overview

Students are given two papers, one large colored and one smaller black square. They cut out a shape, and flip it to create a design.

Step 2: Demo and Design

Demonstrate a technique (ie: Cutting a wavy shape) and then have them try it. Do this for a few of the shapes before you let them go on their own. This one technique upped the quality of this project and also inspired confidence in students while still maintaining freedom and creativity. (Notice no two look the same).

Step 3: Work Time

Have students glue down the small pieces as they work around the square, but leave the center piece to be glued down until the very end. No loose pieces to be lost and it helps kids work more systematically.

Make a little guideline on the corners of the template so they know where to line up the center square each time they cut out a new shape. Encourage large and small shapes and to fill the entire black square with designs.

The very last step will be to glue down the large piece in the center using your guidelines.

Tip: Demonstrating and working together on the first few shapes will help the students get started.