



*Hello there,
Welcome to*

Documentation in the 21st Century:
The Art Display as a Learning Object

*Presented by
Mary Jo Allegra, Friends Academy, New York*



ART IS ABOUT PROCESS

not just product

Transforming the role of the student art display

THIRD GRADE
PAPER COLLAGE

Inspired by artist, Henri Matisse, third graders explored the art of cutting by "drawing with scissors". This phrase was coined by Matisse who created collages made from shapes that were curved and flowing called **organic shapes**. Students first created a large collection of organic shapes then arranged them into a paper collage over a background of geometric shapes. They discovered positive and negative shapes by saving the scrap from which they cut and layered these scraps on top of each other to create a new design.

Positive shapes are like solid shapes with no hole or center like a flat area or spot with no space inside of it.
—Cora

"DRAWING WITH SCISSORS" what's it all about?

The infant toddler centers of Reggio Emilia put great emphasis on their documentation boards because they believe it benefits both students and teachers alike.

Drawing with scissors is like drawing with a pencil but with scissors. —Anna

What are the components of a successful art display?

Written Summary

Process Photos

Interactive Questions

**Student Anecdotes,
Reflections & Supporting Work**

Developmental Rational

THIRD GRADE PAPER COLLAGE

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Positive shapes are like a
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or spot with no space



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What do these organic shapes remind you of?



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Written Summaries, Student Anecdotes & Reflections





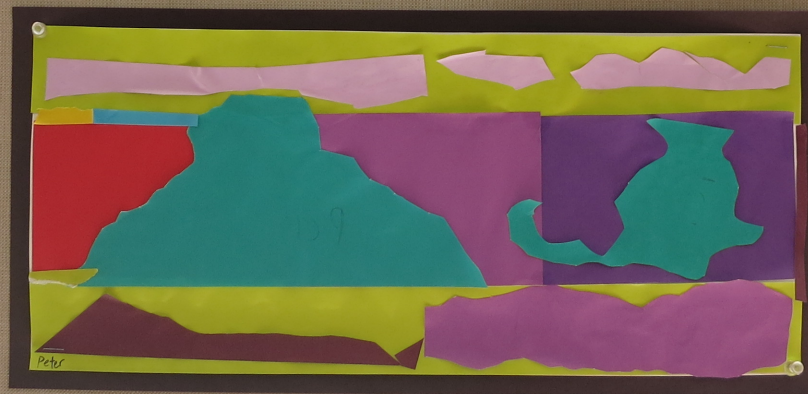
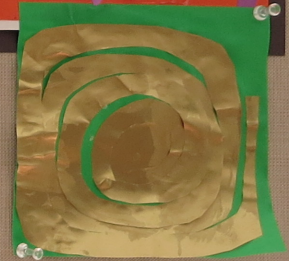
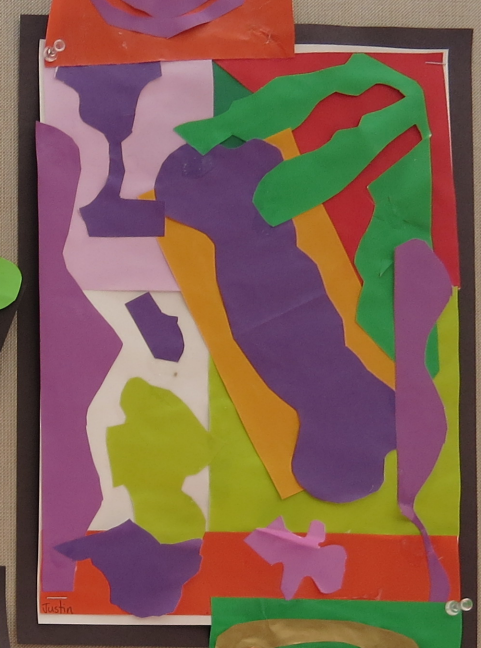
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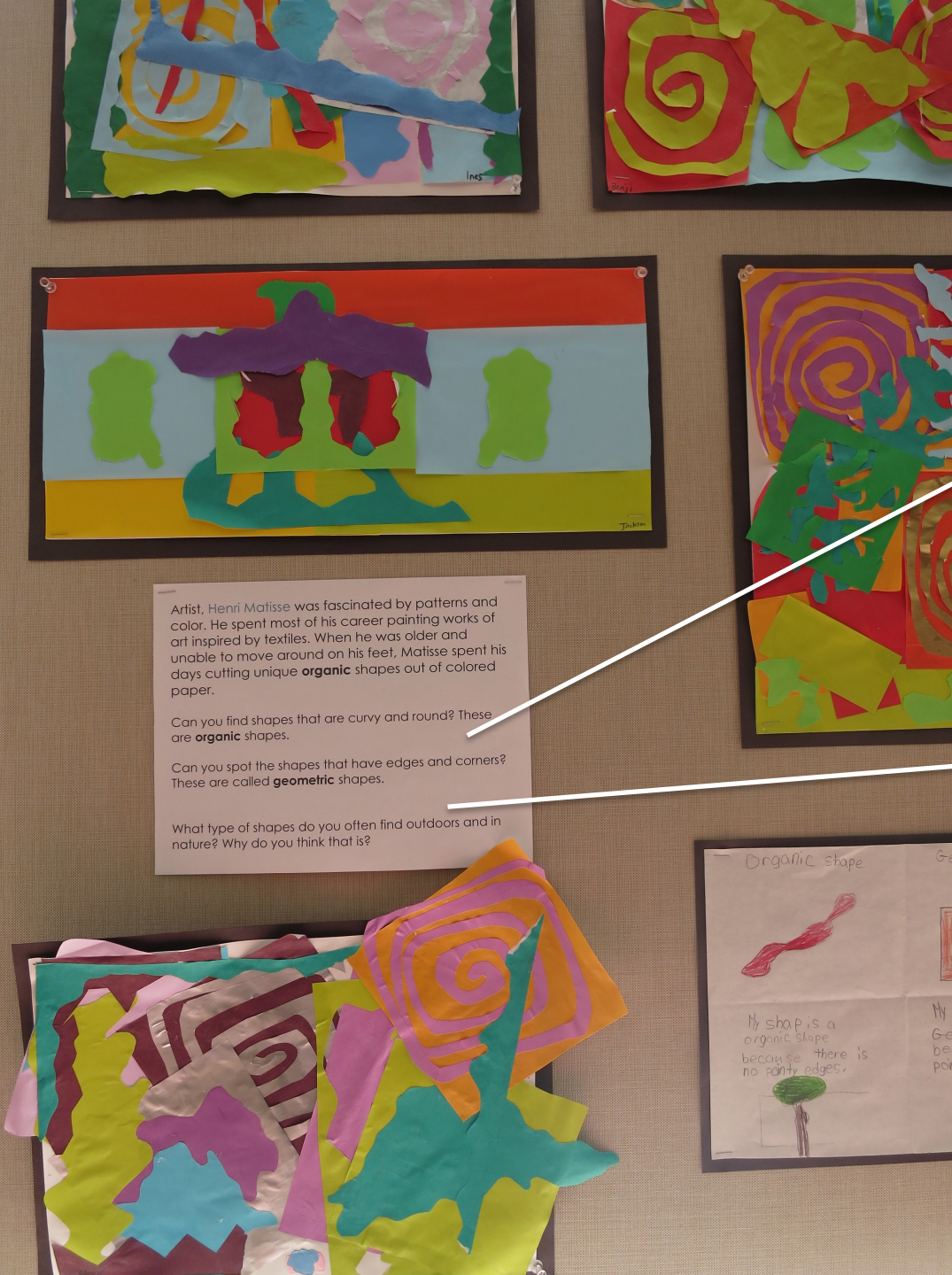
"DRAWING WITH SCISSORS" what's it all about?



Grade 3
Paper Collage



Drawing with scissors
is like drawing with a pencil
but with scissors. -Ava



Questions can be **interactive** and **reflective** for the viewer

Can you find shapes that have edges and corners?

What type of shapes do you often find outdoors and in nature?

Why do you think that is?

Artist, Henri Matisse was fascinated by patterns and color. He spent most of his career painting works of art inspired by textiles. When he was older and unable to move around on his feet, Matisse spent his days cutting unique **organic** shapes out of colored paper.

Can you find shapes that are curvy and round? These are **organic** shapes.

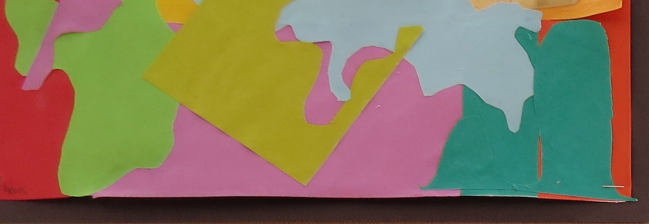
Can you spot the shapes that have edges and corners? These are called **geometric** shapes.

What type of shapes do you often find outdoors and in nature? Why do you think that is?

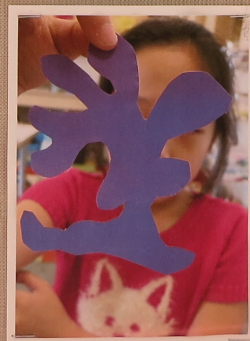
Organic shape

My shape is a organic shape because there is no pointy edges.

Engage your Audience



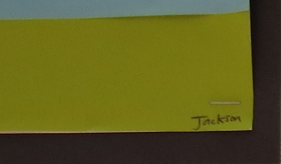
WHAT IS AN ORGANIC SHAPE?



Organic Shapes have no sides
no corners, no names. Organic
Shapes are like a blob-Luke

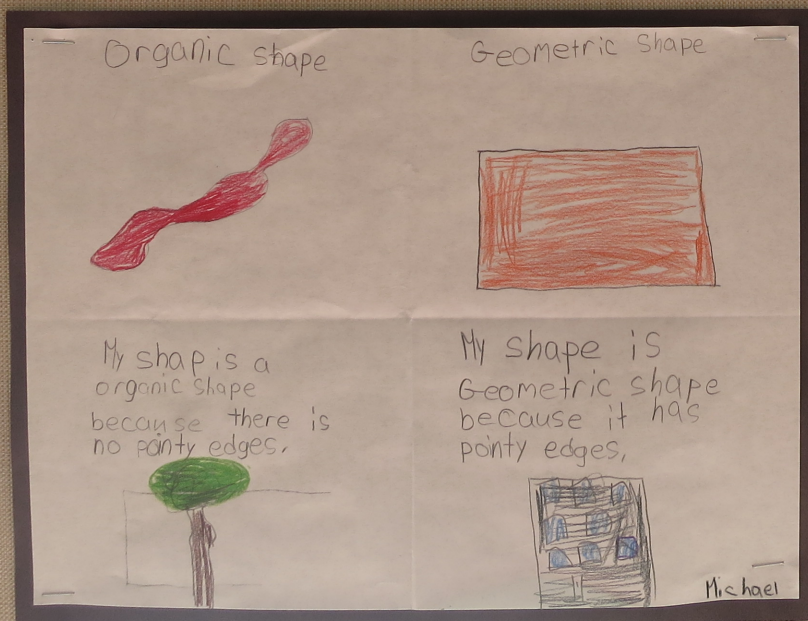
Organic shapes have all curvy waves.
They don't have any straight lines.
amalia





ORGANIC vs. GEOMETRIC

How are these shapes different?
Where can you find them?



Geometric shapes have only straight or diagonal lines like quadrangles and other straight shapes. - Daniel B.

WHAT IS A **GEOMETRIC** SHAPE?

Benji:
Geometric shapes are shapes that have points or lines or tips on the corners.



Preliminary sketches and more involved work show the progression of a unit of study

Process Photos





Capturing the children working in the studio environment illustrates the art experience as a whole.

Zooming in on a child's hands and a material illustrates the care and skill that is practiced when exploring a technique.

Every Picture Tells a Story



Photographs the art process can be narrated by students



Organic shapes are
squigly and they look like
blobs. -Michael

Organic shapes have no straight
lines they are only squigly lines. -
Peter



"DRAWING WITH SCISSORS" what's it all about?



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is like drawing with a pencil
but with scissors. -Ava

Cut like you are drawing a
picture -Theoni



Nov 3, 2013



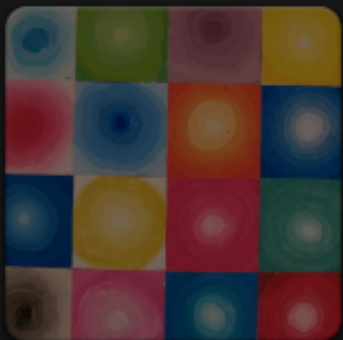
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Nov 5, 2013



Nov 6, 2013



Nov 7, 2013



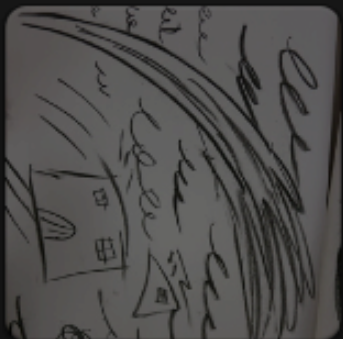
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Nov 11, 2013



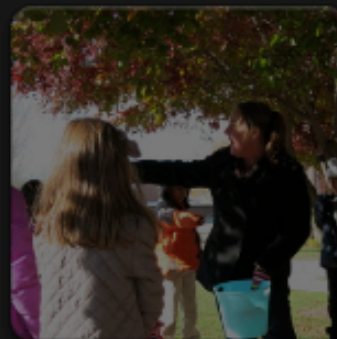
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Nov 12, 2013



Nov 13, 2013



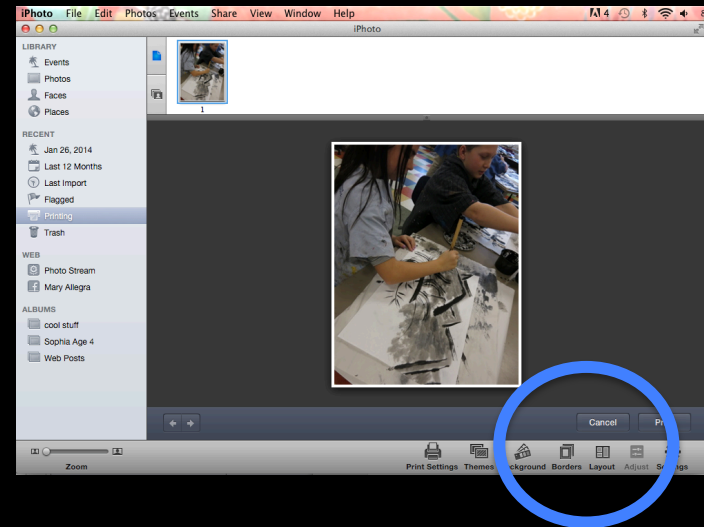
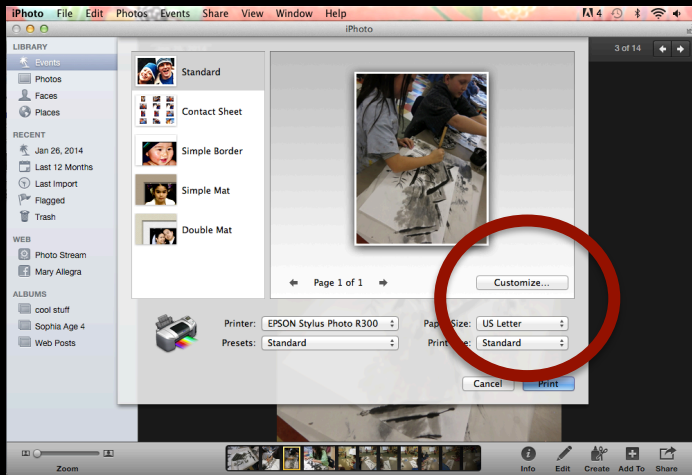
Cornell Cooperative Ex...



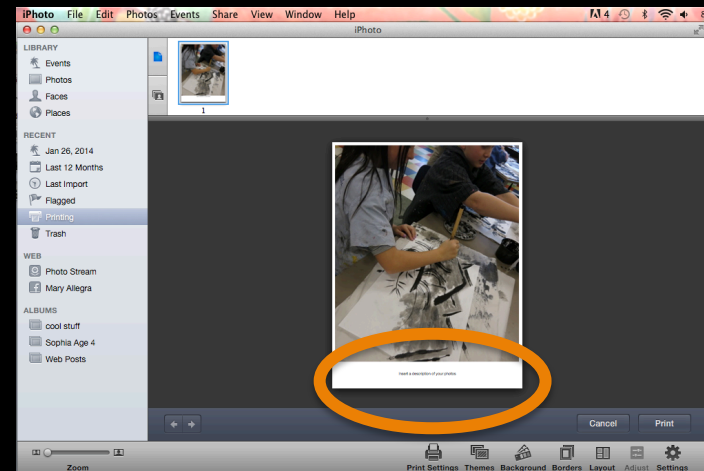
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Organization

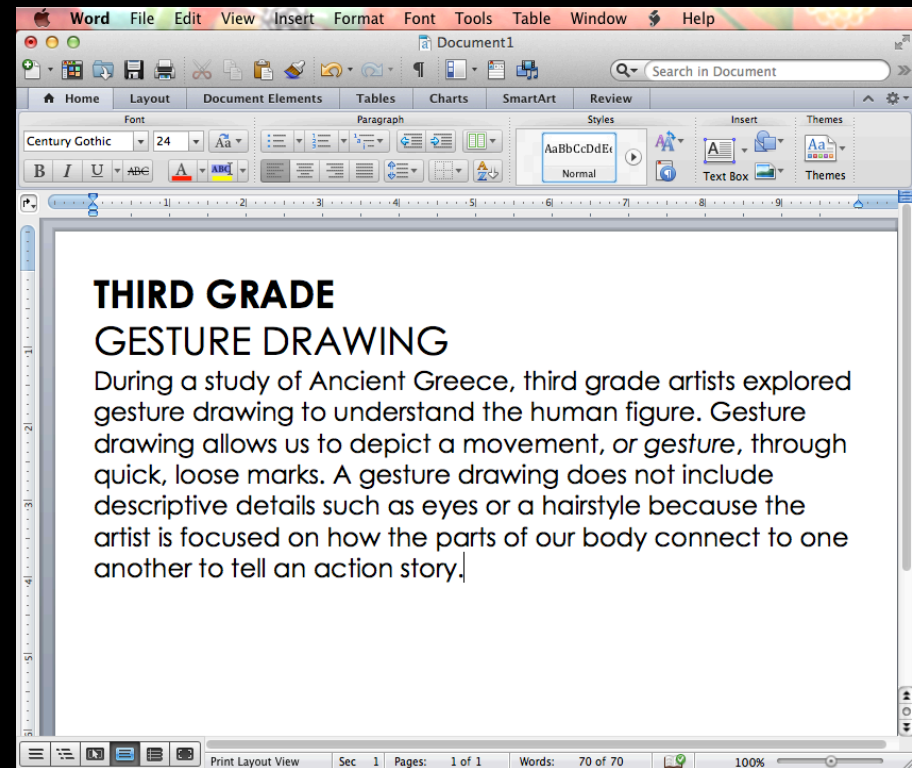
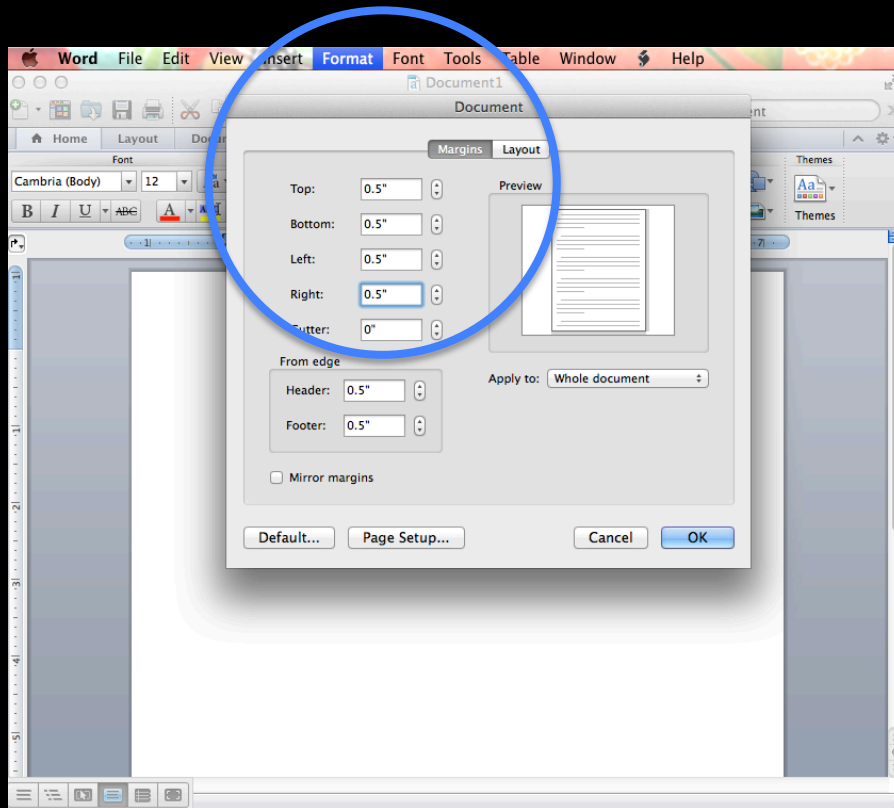
I have an album dedicated to every grade level I teach stored in iPhoto.



iPhoto lets you customize your prints by clicking **“Customize”** just beneath the preview of the image. Once you enter, a variety of choices allow you to enhance your photo. By clicking on **“Layout”** you are offered a choice of orientation as well as **a space to include text**.



I save all my written summaries in a Word document that has been formatted to save specific margins and a font. You can change your margins and orientation by clicking on [Format > Document](#). I like to follow a common font and size to keep the displays aesthetically pleasing and professional. I include a heading to highlight the grade level and content.



Observational Drawing:

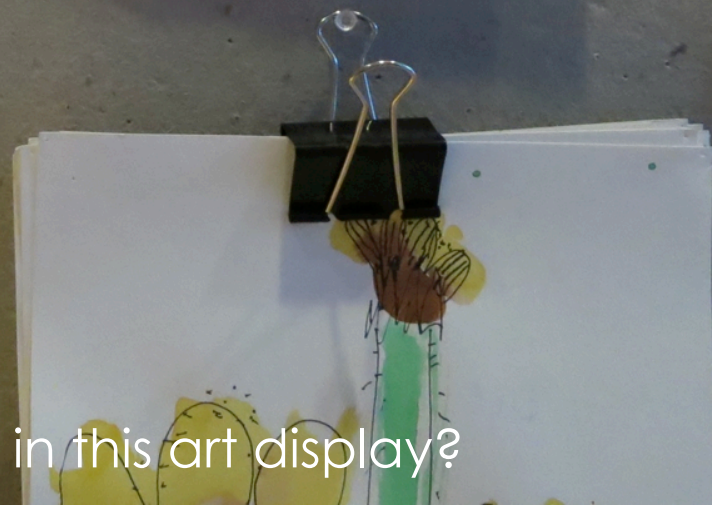
Drawing to Understand



Nobody sees a flower really; it is so small. We haven't time, and to see takes time - like to have a friend takes time.

Georgia O'Keefe

OCT 21 2013



What components do you notice in this art display?

Including a photograph of the observed object alongside the work of art allows us to see how a child views their environment.



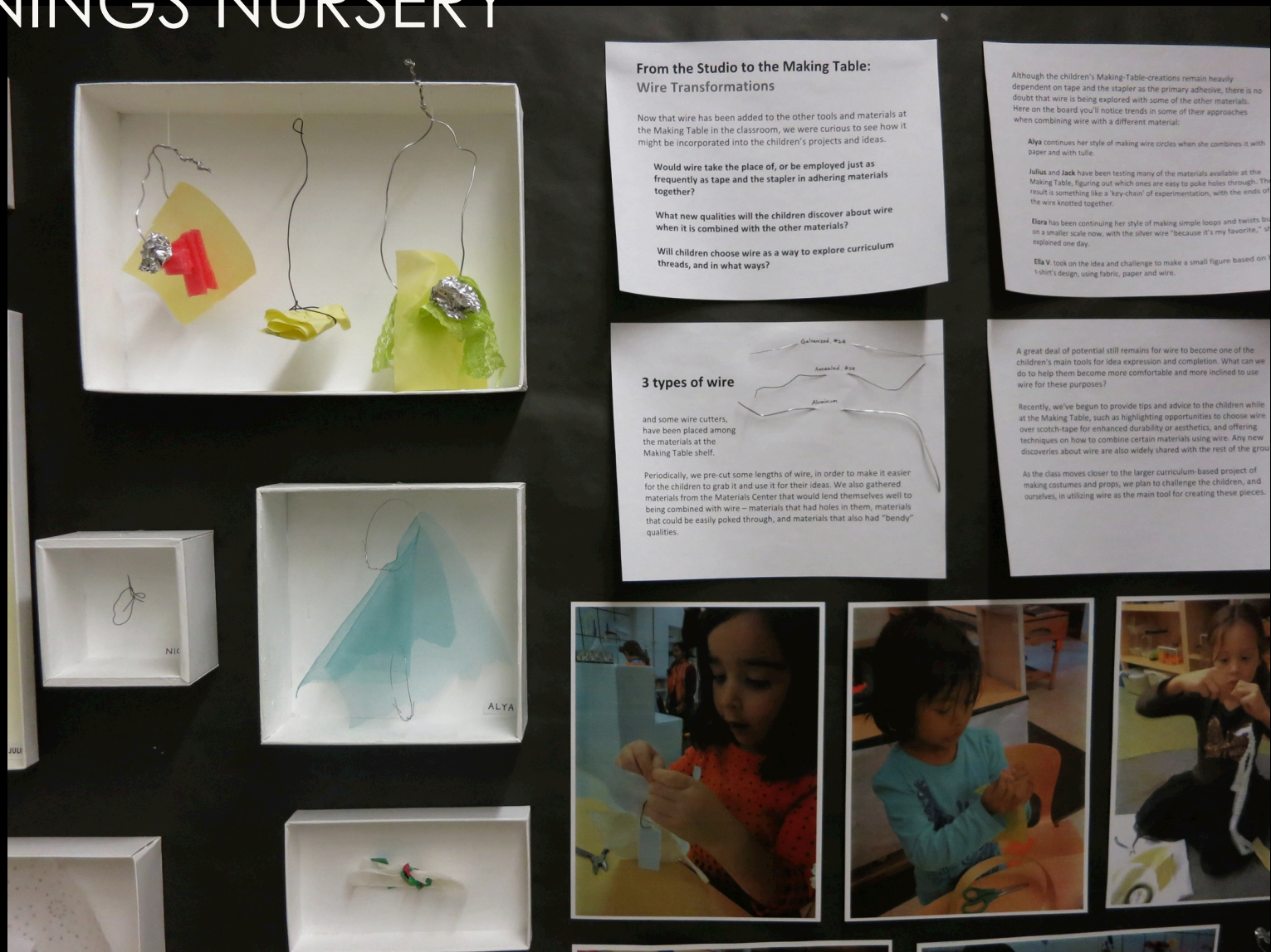
Maris



It has a lot of bumps! I used triangles (to show the bumps) and bumpy lines. It is sort of getting to a pattern... like across down straight and across and then, you make a pattern.

The art display now doubles as an assessment of student understanding.

BEGINNINGS NURSERY

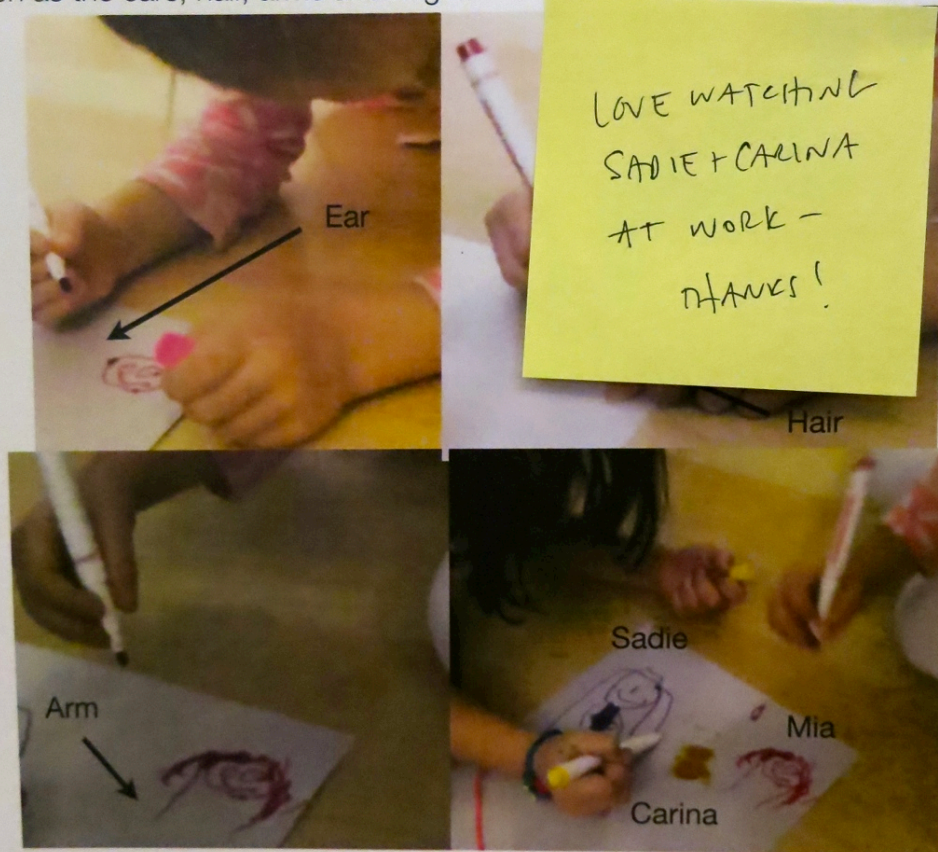


Photographs, student art and dictation are the major vehicles that teachers utilize to document student learning and to develop an emergent curriculum.

DRAWING HUMANS

Carina and Sadie work close together on the same paper, giving the two a opportunity for dialogue and guidance. Sadie draws herself and Carina while Carina draws Mia. Carina is careful to add important distinguishing marks such as the ears, hair, arms and rings.

TRIBECA
COMMUNITY
SCHOOL



Carina: Sadie, do you like Mia? (her drawing in pink)

Sadie: Yeah. Don't forget to make the ears.

Carina: Ok. Those are the ears. That's the hair there. hair, hair hair.

Sadie: Mia's going to have fairies.

Carina: But I don't know how to make the rings. Arm, Arm. And now can you make the hands? (to Sadie)

Sadie: Yeah.

Post-it notes encourage
parents to share comments



What do you include in your student art display?



Thanks for visiting and sharing my passion

If you would like to keep in touch or
If you think of any questions in the future,
contact Mary Jo at:

mjallegra@gmail.com

For more inspiration and to download a copy of this
presentation visit my blog at:

sunporchstudio.com