

ARTS LINK

Lesson Plan

Make it Big : A Pop-Art Soft Sculpture

46 minutes

Transforming an everyday object into a large 3-d soft sculpture (in the style of Claes Oldenburg)

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Objective:

In creating popular objects into super-sized soft sculptures, students will consider how and why Pop artists used everyday objects as their subject matter; students will make the connections between consumer culture and art; students will choose an object that either is significant to them or that they feel represents our current popular culture...and explain why.

Attention/Engage: 5 minutes

Intro:

Hello Friends. My name is LBG - Ch. Book Author/ILL and a BookArts Teaching Artist

Today we're going to super-size a favorite object!

*******We're going to work in the style of Pop Artist Claes Oldenburg and create a large 3-dimensional sculpture of a favorite (or significant) everyday object or food.

We're going to:

- Understand pop culture and Pop Art
- Understand the work of Claes Oldenburg
- Create your own large 3-d soft sculpture

Materials:

- The object
- Several pieces of paper taped together to create really large pieces of paper
- Pencil & eraser
- Scissors
- Black marker
- Colored markers or watercolors or colored pencils
- Brushes and water containers if painting with watercolors and paper towels

Review: 10 minutes

- Abstract Expressionism
- Pop Art
- vcpopular culture
- Public art

- Scale

The Lesson: 25 minutes

The Object: .

Think about an object that means something to you; or an object that you feel represents our popular society – possibly a Big Mac, Coke, Mickey Mouse, a Pokemon, a cartoon character, a video game character, an ipod, a sports emblem, a favorite food like ice cream or pizza, Miss Kitty, a sports ball like a football or soccer ball, a pencil, etc...you get the point.

1. Once you've chosen your **object**, you'll need to decide how large you want your soft sculpture to be.
2. **The paper:** Tape together sheets of paper to give you 2 large sheets of paper for your 3-d soft paper sculpture – one large sheet for the front of your object and one large sheet for the back of your object.
3. The **SKETCH:** Sketch the front of your object, scaled-up on one of the large sheets of paper; cut out the drawn object, but leave about ½ "around the object's shape as you cut; then place that (front) cut-out drawing on top of the other large sheet of blank paper (remember to reverse the front cut-out sketch or you'll have 2 drawings of the same front). Trace the reversed front cut-out shape onto the blank paper.
4. Cut out the traced (front) shape on the 'blank' sheet of paper. Draw any details in your object's 'front'.
5. Draw the back of your object on that second cut-out traced paper shape – remember, leaving about ½" around the back object's drawing as you cut.
6. You should now have both a front and a back cut-out super-sized drawing of your object. Draw the details that go on the back of your pop art object.
7. Start to color in the front of your object with colored pencils, colored markers or watercolors.
8. Then color in the back of your object (on the separate sheet of paper) with colored pencils, colored markers or watercolors.
9. Go over the lines of your drawn object with a black marker, if you want – front and back.
10. Now – you need to glue both front and back drawings to each other... to make a 'whole' object. Start gluing with your glue stick – slowly - one section at a time...starting at the top and working your way down both sides of your object.
11. When you get to one of the ends - leave a 'gap' to insert some shredded paper or small crumbled pieces of paper – to give your pop object some dimension.
12. When you have enough filler paper in your object to make it look 3-d, CAREFULLY glue the remaining gap with your glue stick.
13. **And now - you have a Pop Art soft sculpture!**

Summarize: 5 minutes

1. Would Oldenburg's sculptures have the same impact if they were the size of the real objects? And what if they were very small?



2. Remember the Giant Hamburger...how big do you think it is? It's 7 feet by 4 feet! Would it have the same impact if it looked very realistic?
3. Where would you choose to put your Pop Art Object if it were to be a public art piece? And how big would you like it to be?

Conclusion: 1 minute

- I hope you've had a great time creating your own 3-d soft Pop Art sculpture.
- I think it's important to know **why** you choose this object to re-create?
- And - what is it poking **fun** at?
- Or - is your pop art sculpture gloryfying something - or maybe nothing at all - maybe it's just for fun...maybe it's just for art.

Thanks for watching - and making - and thinking - and good luck with your next Pop Art Adventure!