

“Negative Space People”



Objective: Students will draw various line types to create a composition.

Materials

- Black Construction Paper 6 X 18
- Various Colored Construction Paper 5 x 5 squares
- Pencils, erasers
- Scissors and Glue

Motivation

- Introduce the work of artist Keith Haring. Discuss proportion of the human body and positive/negative space. Students could practice sketching each other as models.
- You can have a lot of fun with this activity by relating it to extracurricular activities or the Olympics!

Step 1: Draw

Students will draw 3 human forms, one on each square of colored paper. The form needs to be proportional and touch at least two sides of the square. No two forms can be the same.

Accommodations: Use 3 different colors of paper squares, use human form models, human form tracers may also help.

Advanced options: challenge students to design 3 movements of one activity (for example: a cartwheel, sports play, high dive, etc.), connect all their figures in some way or try more than three.

Step 2: Cut

Discuss the importance of cutting carefully and with good craftsmanship. Students should cut out all three human forms. Make sure to KEEP ALL THE SCRAPS.

Step 3: Layout Series & Glue

Students will lay out all the negative space (scraps from each square) to create a 3 person series. Series can be horizontal or vertical.

Quick tip: It helps to use the human form to put the negative space pieces together and then remove it before gluing.

They should glue the side with the pencil lines down and leave a finger width between all edges of the squares and the black background paper.