

Landmarks Guide for Younger Children



Robert Murray
Canadian, born 1936

Chilkat
1977
Painted aluminum

Subject: Color and shade

Activity: Experiment with shade and shadows

Materials: Construction paper, scissors, and tape

Vocabulary: Color, sculpture, mood, reflective, shape

i Introduction

Color is an important part of art and our world. Colors have many different meanings and uses for us. This sculpture is made of a single sheet of aluminum metal that has been bent and painted a bright and shiny red. Though the sculpture is all one color, it appears to have many shades of red on it. This is because of the way light hits it. Light cannot entirely reach the inside of the sculpture, so it appears darker. In some places the sculpture is reflective, and when light hits it, it looks very bright and lighter red, or even white.

? Questions

Can you name some colors and the feelings or ideas we associate with them?

What is your favorite color? Why and what does it mean to you?

Why do you think the artist chose to make this sculpture bright red? How would it be different if it were another color?

What if this sculpture were not so shiny and reflective? How would it be different?



Activity

If you can, work outside, where the sun is bright and shining on you. If you cannot, work inside under a lamp that can provide you with a direct source of light. Cut different shapes out of colored construction paper. Fold them in anyway you choose. Notice how when the shapes are in the light, some parts appear dark and some lighter. Now place your shapes on a sheet of white paper and notice the shadows underneath them. Using tape, secure your shapes to the page so that the shadows of the shapes and the white page make an interesting composition.



Vocabulary

Color - Lightness or darkness of a surface, also known as hue

Sculpture - A work of art that has height, width, and depth

Mood - Mental or emotional state or disposition

Reflective - When a material bounces back light, like a mirror does

Shade - A darkened area, in which sunlight is blocked



Artists with Related Works

Anthony Caro, *Veduggio Glimpse*, 1972–73