

Landmarks Guide for Younger Children



Tony Smith
American, 1912–1980

Amaryllis
1965
Painted steel

Subject: Scale

Activity: Make a small-scale model

Materials: Cardboard, scissors, tape or glue

Vocabulary: Artist, model, scale, sculpture, shape, steel

i Introduction

Remind your child that everything we see has a size. Even among the same types of things, some can be larger or smaller. For instance, a toy car is a small version of a real car that an adult drives. If the toy car looks exactly like the larger one, except for its size, then we say it is a scale model.

This artist worked by making small cardboard shapes and arranging them in different orders to make a model. He would then have a larger sculpture made out of steel that looked exactly the same, only bigger.

? Questions

What size is this sculpture?
Is it large or small?

Can you see shapes in the sculpture?
Which ones?

What size do you think was the
artist's model?

How do you think they are put together?

Q Observations

Examine the size of the sculpture and ask the child to think of things that are the same size. Note that this sculpture uses elemental shapes, like triangles and rectangles, in unusual ways.



Activity

Using the cardboard, make three-dimensional shapes for your child to use. They may be cubes, pyramids, spheres, etc. Ask the child to assemble them in ways that make new shapes and tape them together. Take the model outside and encourage the child to imagine a large-scale version. How big would it be (as big as a car or house?), and where would you put it?

Vocabulary

Artist - Someone who makes things, such as paintings and sculptures

Model - A small version of a large thing

Scale - To change the size of something from smaller to larger or larger to smaller

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

Shape - An outline of a body, like a circle or square

Steel - A strong metal used in buildings and bridges

Artists with Related Works

Louise Bourgeois, *Eyes*, 1982

Donald Lipski, *The West*, 1987

Joel Perlman, *Square Tilt*, 1983

Ursula von Rydingsvard, *Untitled (Seven Mountains)*, 1986–1988