

# MoNA

Museum of Northwest Art

**Age:** Third grade

**Lesson Duration:** 60-90 Minutes

**Subjects:** Art & Geometry

## Paper Sculpture Masks Inspired by Corey Bulpitt

A HANDS-ON ART ACTIVITY  
FOR ELEMENTARY AGE  
STUDENTS



Project sample

Image credit: Museum of Northwest Art

### Description

In this lesson students will be introduced to Pacific Northwest and Haida (Naikun Raven) artist Corey Bulpitt. After an inquiry-based discussion practicing Visual Thinking Strategies using the artist's images for inspiration, students will create a paper mask based off their own facial features and proportions.

### Materials

- Thick paper (construction paper, cardstock, etc)
- Glue stick
- Scissors
- Pencil
- Eraser

### Vocabulary

- ✓ Mask
- ✓ Proportions
- ✓ Curved
- ✓ Vertical
- ✓ Horizontal



## Instructions

**1)** Introduce the artist using the following "About the Artist" page and share some images of his work.

- Here, it may be helpful to practice VTS (Visual Thinking Strategies) to facilitate an inquiry and observation-based discussion. Full-size images and a VTS appendix (with tips & resources) are included at the end of this lesson.

**2)** To begin the art-making activity, have students take one sheet of their paper and have them hold it gently to their face. They may need assistance or have mirrors handy. Have students carefully and lightly mark where the top of their forehead, chin, tip of their nose and sides of their face meet the paper (see attached facial proportions chart for guidance).

**3)** Putting the paper back down on the workspace, students will cut their oval face shape, using the marks they made (forehead, chin, etc.) as guides.

**4)** Have students fold their oval in half. Holding the half-circle up to their face, have students make a mark for their eyes and mouth.

**5)** Now that their facial features are mapped on their oval, students can begin to draw, cut and paste their facial feature details. By first drawing an outline of the lips, eyebrows or eyes, students then cut out these shapes and adhere them onto their oval mask. Students can use a mirror or touch their face for reference, or get creative and make totally new facial features!

**6)** Additions like eyelashes, noses, ears, hair or teeth can all be used to create a 3D effect for their masks. Once all facial features are adhered to their mask, it can be hole-punched and strung to tie around the head or be glued to a popsicle stick to hold.

# About the Artist



Corey Bulpitt  
Image credit: Cheryl's Trading Post

Corey Bulpitt is a Haida (Naikun Raven) artist from Vancouver, British Columbia. Bulpitt's Haida name, Taakeit Aaya, means "Gifted Carver." Though Bulpitt comes from an artistic family (his ancestors include Charles Edenshaw and Louis Collison), he is known for his personal style of jewelry, painting, graffiti art and carving.

Bulpitt is deeply connected to the contemporary and urban First Nations culture in Vancouver. He is a member of the Beat Nation- Hip Hop, an Indigenous Culture group. His graffiti art can be found on city blocks and in museums, and he creates functional, traditional pieces for multiple dance groups in the city.

To learn more about the artist and see further images, [click here](#). Click the following to learn more about [Beat Nation](#) and his feature on the website [Potlatch 67-67](#).



Haida Shaman Mask by Corey Bulpitt  
Image credit: Cheryl's Trading Post

As you look at Bulpitt's masks for inspiration, what might you notice about the facial features and the use of proportion? Are any features (like the eyes, nose or mouth) exaggerated? What effect might that have on the mask?



Portrait- Alder Mask by Corey Bulpitt  
Image credit: Cheryl's Trading Post

# Facial Proportions Chart

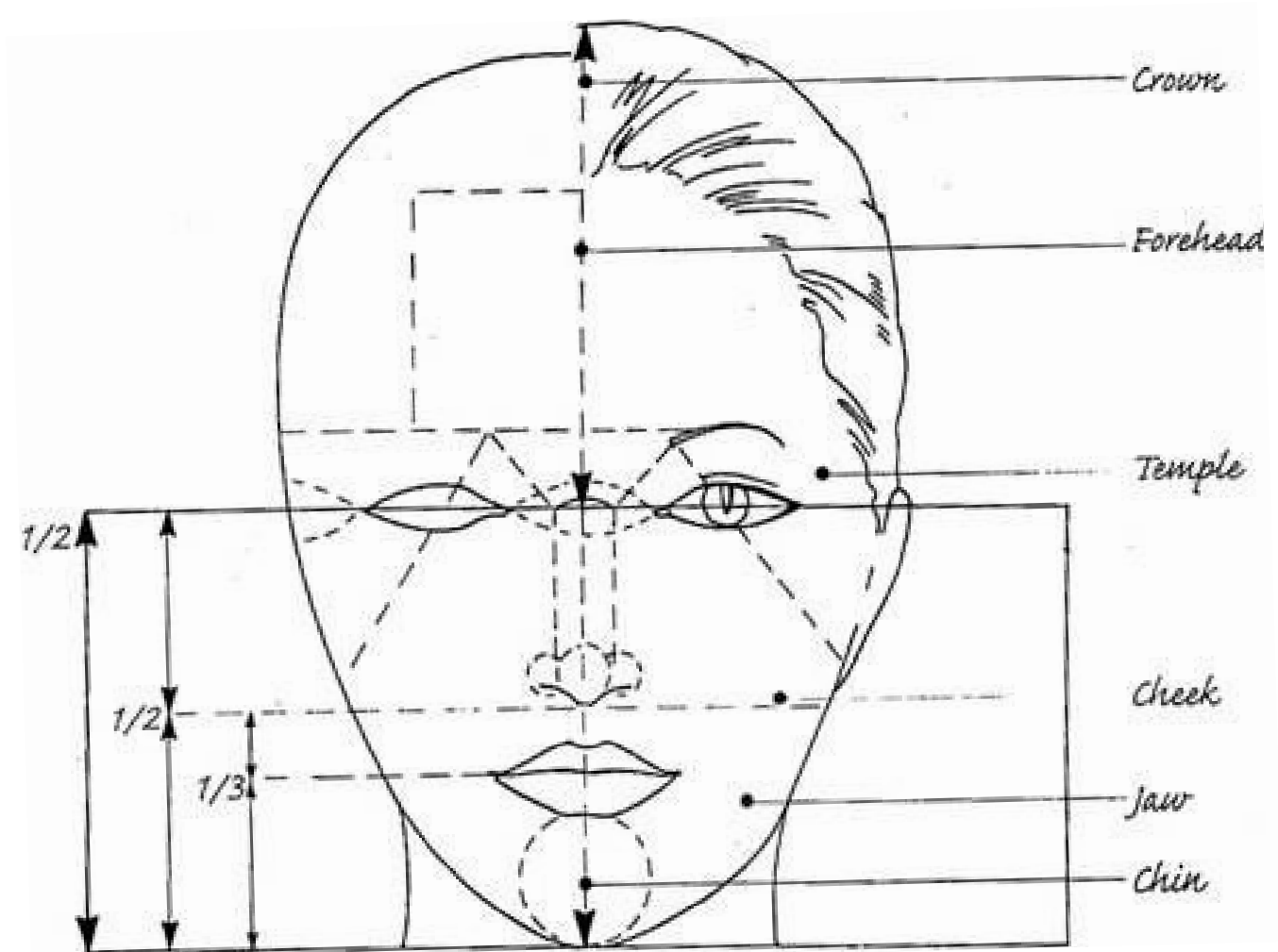


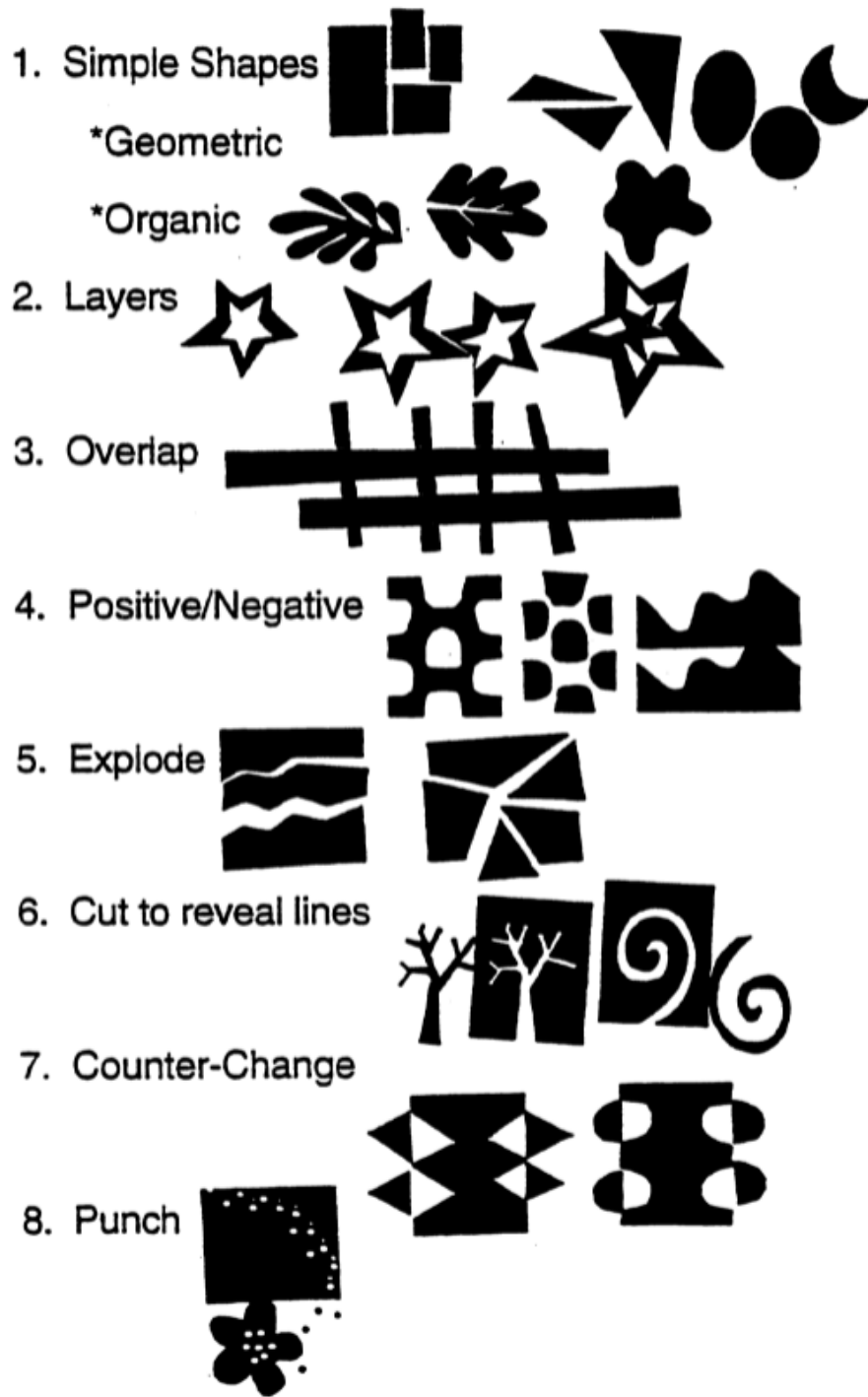
Image credit: ArtFPD

## Learning and State Standards

Fulfills **Washington State Arts Learning Standards:**

- **(VA:Cr1.2.3)** Apply knowledge of available resources, tools, and technologies to investigate personal ideas through the art making process.
- **(VA:Cr2.1.3)** Create personally satisfying artwork, using a variety of artistic processes and materials.
- **(VA:Cr2.2.3)** Demonstrate an understanding of the safe and proficient use of materials, tools, and equipment for a variety of artistic processes.

# 2-DIMENSIONAL PAPER CUTTING TECHNIQUES



# PAPER SCULPTURE



SPIRAL



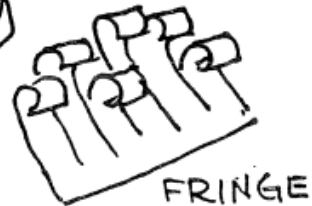
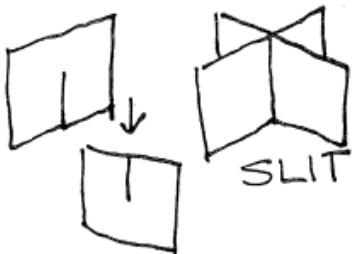
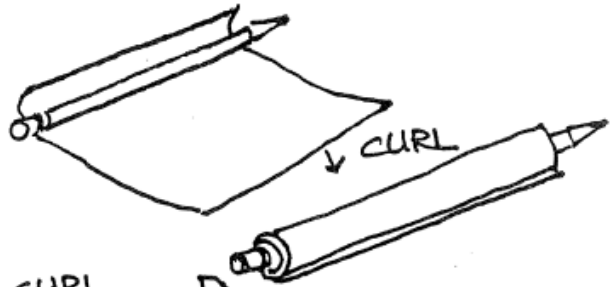
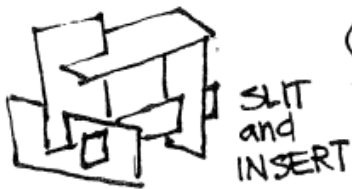
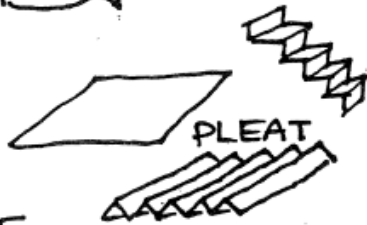
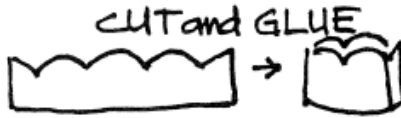
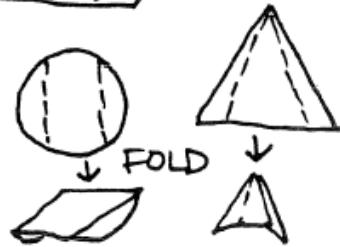
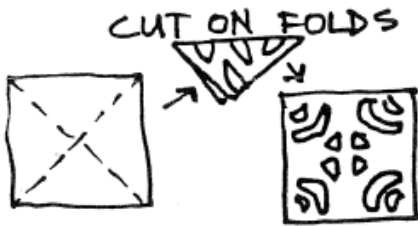
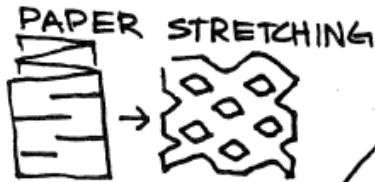
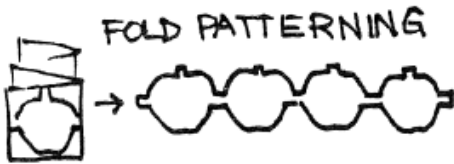
FRINGE



DOUBLE FRINGE



FOLD/CUT BEND



# Visual Thinking Strategies

MoNA's Education programs utilize Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS), which is a research-based teaching method that promotes aesthetic development including critical thinking and communication skills. Here in the MoNA, we use VTS to engage students and general visitors with art encouraging them to observe closely, think critically and discuss respectfully; however, VTS can be effectively used across curricula. This approach teaches its participants how to take the time to observe closely, describe what they see in detail and provide evidence for their observations. Students learn that their reflections and thoughts are valued and appreciated in this inclusive teaching method.

In order to facilitate a VTS discussion, you first encourage viewers to take a quiet moment to observe the work you are going to explore. Then you ask the following questions and paraphrase the responses without adding any of your own judgements. You can insert additional vocabulary and point to specific parts of the artwork.

***What's going on in this picture?***  
***What do you see that makes you say that...?***  
***What more can you find?***

## Visual Thinking Strategy Links

If you are interested in learning more about VTS, [here is their website](#). If you already know and love VTS, but want help finding great images to VTS in your classroom, here is a [fantastic gallery](#). You can also visit this website for additional resources: <https://www.monamuseum.org/resources-for-educators>



*Haida Shaman Mask* by Corey Bulpitt  
Image credit: Cheryl's Trading Post





*Portrait- Alder Mask by Corey Bulpitt*  
Image credit: Cheryl's Trading Post



*Shamanic Mask* by Corey Bulpitt  
Image credit: The Chow Collection