

MoNA

Museum of Northwest Art

Age: Fourth Grade

Lesson Duration: 1 hour

Subject: Literature & Math

Subtractive and Additive Character Sculpture Studies

A HANDS-ON ART ACTIVITY
DESIGNED BY MICHAEL HANES



Above: Student examples
Image source: Michael Hanes

Description

During this lesson, students will learn about additive and subtractive sculpture techniques. Using inspiration from the ceramic works of Nicole Gugliotti, students will create additive and subtractive sculptures based on a fictional character they have written or read about in the classroom.

Materials

- *White Supremacy is Violent* and *The Weight of Privilege* by Nicole Gugliotti (included at the end of lesson)
- [Video on Additive and Subtractive sculpture technique](#)
- Pencils
- Scrap paper
- Air dry clay
- Floral foam
- Clay carving tools or plastic butter knives
- Thick paper for mounting

Instructions:

- 1)** Begin the lesson by showing students the attached video on additive and subtractive sculpture. This will help students understand the artistic concepts that will be used in this lesson.
- 2)** Show students the inspiration pieces *White Supremacy is Violent* and *The Weight of Privilege* by Nicole Gugliotti and use VTS (Visual Thinking Strategies) to discuss the works and their concepts further.
 - VTS is an inquiry-based method of facilitating discussion. Tips and resources on VTS and more information on the artist are included at the end of this lesson.
- 3)** Students will begin their design process by sketching their characters using pencil on scrap paper.
 - As they finish, pass out clay for them to play with until most students are ready for the next step.
- 4)** Once all the students have clay, let them experiment with creating various 3D forms using clay.
 - Examples of clay forms and clay techniques can be found at the end of this lesson
- 5)** Using the clay, students will create an additive sculpture based on the sketch of their character.
- 6)** Once they have finished with their clay, students will then use the floral foam to create a subtractive sculpture of the same character.
 - Demonstrate to the class how to safely use carving tools (such as plastic knives) to cut away pieces of the foam, leaving raised areas of detail.
- 7)** Once students have finished their two sculptures, allow them to share their creations with the class and talk about their characters.

Relevant Vocabulary

- Additive Sculpture
- Subtractive Sculpture
- 2-Dimensional
- Shape
- Form
- Sphere
- Ovoid
- Cube
- Rectangular Prism



Learning and State Standards

Fulfills **Washington State Arts Learning Standards:**

- **VA: Cr2.1.4** (Explore and invent art-making techniques and approaches)
- **VA: Cr2.2.4** (When making works of art, utilize and care for materials, tools, and equipment in a manner that prevents danger to oneself and others)

COMMON FORMS

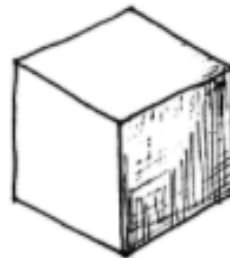
SPHERE



CYLINDER



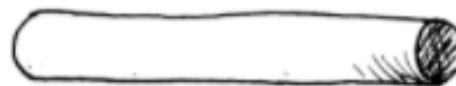
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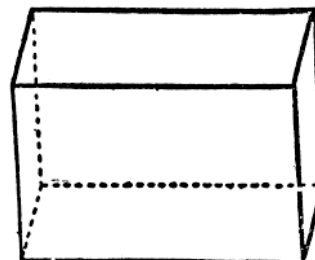
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COIL

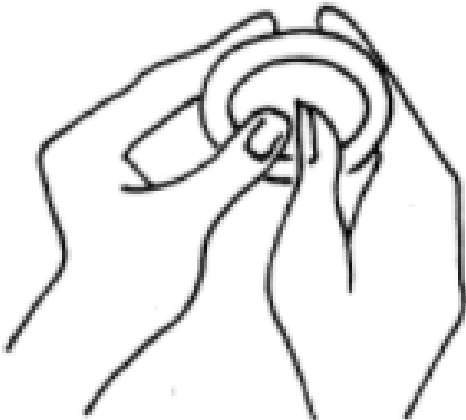


RECTANGULAR
PRISM

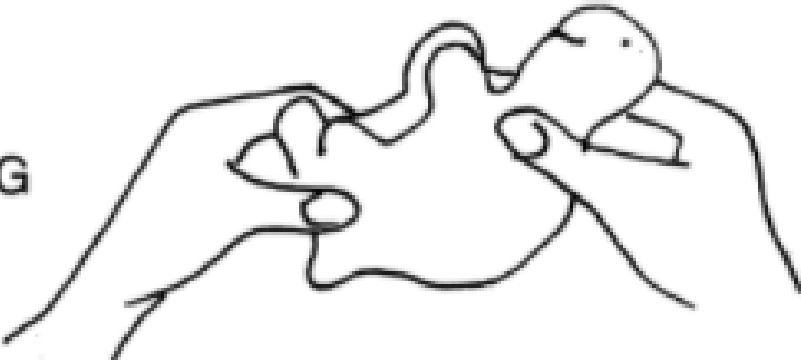


CLAY BUILDING TECHNIQUES

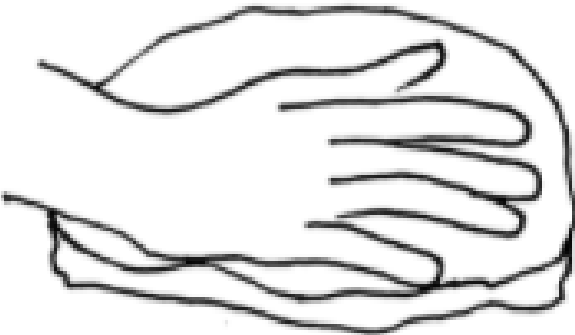
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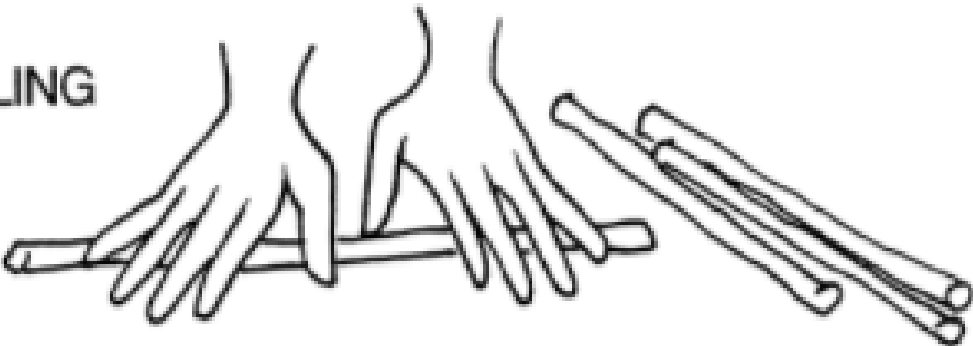
MODELING



SLAB



COILING



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...?

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 use in your classroom, here is a [fantastic gallery](#). You can also visit this website for additional resources: www.monamuseum.org/resources-for-educators

About the Artist: Nicole Gugliotti



Nicole Gugliotti

Image Source: www.nicolegugliotti.com

Nicole Gugliotti is an artist based in Olympia, Washington. Primarily working in ceramics, Gugliotti's works combine craft with social awareness. Many of her works revolve around the topics of social and reproductive justice. She received her art education at the University of Florida and Florida Atlantic University and currently works at South Puget Sound Community College. Her works have been shown in many exhibitions, including Jacksonville, Florida, and Shigaraki, Japan.

**"I WORK LIKE A POET ARRANGING WORDS,
CREATING A COMPOSITION THAT CONNECTS
AESTHETICS AND ACTIVISM WITH PEOPLE."**

-NICOLE GUGLIOTTI



White Supremacy is Violent, from *Things That Should Not Need to be Said* series, Nicole Guggliotti
Image Source: Nicole Guggliotti



The Weight of Privilege, Nicole Gugliotti
Image Source: The Olympian