

A vibrant banner for 'Creative Chase' featuring various art supplies like pencils, pens, brushes, and paint palettes scattered around a central blue-bordered box containing the text 'CREATIVE CHASE'.

CREATIVE CHASE

Creativity in the Classroom

KS1 Working in 3 Dimensions

About this Unit

This unit provides an immersive introduction to **three-dimensional art** for Key Stage 1 pupils, focusing on **sculpture and construction** using a variety of materials such as cardboard, different papers, and wire. Pupils will explore how artists transform two-dimensional materials into engaging 3D forms, enhancing their **fine motor skills** and spatial reasoning. The unit will culminate in the creation of a bird sculpture and wire flowers, directly linking to KS1 National Curriculum objectives for sculpture and 3D form

National Curriculum Links

- Use a range of materials creatively to design and make products.
- Use drawing, painting, and **sculpture** to develop and share their ideas, experiences, and imagination.
- Develop a wide range of art and design techniques in using colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, **form**, and space.
- Learn about the work of a range of artists, craft makers, and designers, describing the differences and similarities between different practices and disciplines, and making links to their own work

Artist Inspiration:

Kate Kelly (KaperKate Paper Artist): Inspires with her intricate paper sculptures, demonstrating how everyday paper can be transformed into detailed 3D forms, particularly relevant for birds and natural forms.

Kate Slater (Illustrator): Her illustrative work, especially her detailed depictions of birds, provides inspiration for observation and detail in nature-themed art.

Helaina Sharpley: A wire sculptor whose work, particularly flowers, offers a tangible example of using wire to create delicate yet strong 3D forms.

Theme

Birds and Flowers: Exploring natural forms and translating them into three-dimensional sculptures

Tools and Materials

Construction: Cardboard (various thicknesses, including recycled boxes), card, newspaper, masking tape, wire (pre-cut for safety), glue sticks, double-sided tape.

Surface & Decoration: Magazine papers, recycled book paper, tissue paper, buttons (for eyes)

Drawing & Shaping: Pencils, scissors.

Presentation: Cardboard decomposable cups.

Resources/Imagery/Links

Visual Inspiration:

- **Visual Inspiration:** Examples of KaperKate's paper sculptures, Kate Slater's bird illustrations, and Helaina Sharpley's wire sculptures. High-quality images of various birds and flowers, focusing on different angles and details.
- **Step-by-step Visuals:** Demonstrations on how to manipulate cardboard (scoring, folding, cutting), techniques for forming newspaper structures, and methods for attaching wire . Visual guides for creating paper textures and surfaces.

Digital Resources:

- Online galleries of featured artists. Videos demonstrating wire manipulation (teacher-led demo) and paper sculpting techniques.

Classroom Displays:

- Showcase examples of different paper textures, wire forms, and sculptural techniques to inspire and guide pupils .

Implementation Tips:

- Emphasise **safety first** when working with scissors and wire (ensure wire is pre-cut and supervise closely).
- Encourage **experimentation** with materials to understand their properties (e.g., how paper rolls, folds, or tears).
- Facilitate **collaborative learning** during construction phases, allowing pupils to share ideas and assist each other.
- Promote **language development** by discussing terms like "3D," "sculpture," "form," "texture," "armature," and "proportion".
- Use **sketchbooks** to plan designs, explore ideas, and record observations of birds and flowers.

Techniques/Process

- **Cardboard Construction:** Cutting, layering, folding, and attaching cardboard to create relief and form.
- **Papier-mâché/Compacting:** Shaping newspaper with masking tape to create an armature for sculptures.
- **Surface Decoration:** Applying layers of varied papers (magazine, tissue, book paper) to create texture, pattern, and colour on a 3D form.
- **Wire Manipulation:** Bending, shaping, and attaching pre-cut wire to create structural elements (e.g., legs, flower stems).
- **Continuous Line Drawing:** Developing observational drawing skills for flowers, which then guide wire forms.

Weekly Lesson Plan

Week 1: Introduction to 3D and Birds in Art

Learning Focus: Understanding 3D form and exploring artists who create 3D works. Initial observational drawing of birds.

Activities:

- Introduce the concept of 3D (solid vs. flat)
- Discuss KaperKate's and Kate Slater's work, showing how they interpret birds and natural forms.
- Pupils observe various images of birds and create initial drawings, focusing on simple shapes and forms.

Differentiation: Provide simplified bird outlines for tracing for less confident drawers. Encourage detailed sketches for more advanced pupils.

Assessment: Observe understanding of 3D concept through discussion. Evaluate observational drawing skills and effort in sketchbooks.

Week 2: Sculpting Bird Forms with Cardboard

Learning Focus: Translating a 2D drawing into a relief sculpture using layered cardboard.

Activities:

- Pupils choose one of their bird drawings.
- Pupils sketch their chosen bird onto a thick piece of card.
- Using different types of recycled card (e.g., cereal boxes), they cut and layer pieces to add detail and build up the form of the bird, such as feathers or wings.
- Pupils focus on making certain areas stand out.

Differentiation: Provide templates for cutting cardboard shapes. Challenge pupils to experiment with different card thicknesses to create varied textures and depth.

Assessment: Evaluate ability to layer cardboard effectively to create 3D form; assess fine motor skills in cutting and attaching.

Week 3: Creating the Bird's Body and Surface Decoration

Learning Focus: Constructing a central 3D form using newspaper and tape and adding decorative paper surfaces.

Activities:

- Pupils learn to compact newspaper to form the body and head of their bird, securing it with masking tape to create a basic armature.
- Add colour and texture by gluing torn or cut pieces of old book paper, recycled paper, and patterned paper onto the newspaper form, aiming for full coverage and interesting overlaps.

Differentiation: Offer pre-formed newspaper armatures if needed. Encourage creative patterns and colour combinations with the papers.

Assessment: Assess construction skills with newspaper and tape; evaluate creativity and neatness in paper app

Week 4: Adding Detail: Wire Legs and Finishing Touches

Learning Focus: Understanding how wire can create structural and linear elements in sculpture.

Activities:

- After a clear demonstration, pupils use pre-cut wire to create the legs for their bird, bending and shaping them.
- Pupils attach these to the bird's body using clear tape, reinforcing with more wire if needed.
- Pupils select a button to add as an eye for their bird.

Differentiation: Provide pre-bent wire for some pupils. Challenge advanced pupils to create more complex wire structures or incorporate multiple wire pieces.

Assessment: Observe wire manipulation skills and ability to attach legs securely; evaluate the overall stability and appearance of the bird sculpture.

Week 5: Continuous Line Flowers and Wire Sculpting

Learning Focus: Translating 2D continuous line drawings into 3D wire forms and adding colour with tissue paper.

Activities:

- Introduce Helaina Sharpley's work.
- Pupils practice continuous line drawings of flowers.
- Using their drawings as a guide, they bend pre-cut wire to create the outlines of flower shapes. They can produce several.
- Pupils add colour by attaching tissue paper to the wire forms using double-sided tape.

Differentiation: Offer simpler flower shapes for wire bending. Encourage more intricate designs for those confident with wire.

Assessment: Evaluate ability to create continuous line drawings; assess wire manipulation skills and neatness of tissue paper application.

Week 6: Assembling and Presenting Sculptures

Learning Focus: Finalising the sculptures, creating leaves from recycled materials, and presenting the 3D work.

Activities:

- Pupils create leaves for their flowers using recycled card.
- The wire flowers are then arranged and presented in a cardboard decomposable cup, creating a small "sculpture garden."
- An optional activity involves using an empty shoebox as a frame to create a 3D picture by attaching their bird or flower sculptures, or other constructed elements, within it.

Differentiation: Provide templates for leaf cutting. Encourage creative arrangement and presentation of their finished pieces.

Assessment: evaluate overall aesthetic, construction quality, and creative presentation. Pupils discuss their learning journey and chosen materials.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this 6-week unit, pupils will:

- Understand the difference between 2D and 3D forms and be able to create simple sculptures .
- Confidently use a range of materials including cardboard, newspaper, and wire to construct 3D objects .
- Develop fine motor skills through cutting, folding, taping, and wire manipulation.
- Explore techniques for creating texture and adding colour to 3D surfaces using various papers.
- Learn about the work of Kate Kelly, Kate Slater, and Helaina Sharpley, making connections between their techniques and their own creative process.
- Develop their ability to plan and realize a 3D artistic idea from initial drawing to final construction and presentation.