

A decorative banner at the top of the page features various art supplies like pencils, pens, paintbrushes, and markers scattered around a central blue-bordered box containing the text 'CREATIVE CHASE'.

## CREATIVE CHASE

# Creativity in the Classroom

## KS2 Working in 3 Dimensions

### About this Unit

This 6-week unit introduces KS2 pupils to the world of three-dimensional art, guiding them through the process of transforming 2D drawings into tactile 3D sculptures using wire, cardboard, and a range of recycled papers. Pupils explore how artists translate ideas into forms, develop fine motor skills through cutting, shaping, and assembling materials, and engage imagination through a theme centered on buildings and nature (such as houses, shops, flower stalls, birds, and plants). Narrative connections with storybooks linked to homes and places enrich pupils' creative thinking.

### National Curriculum Links

- Use a wide range of materials creatively to design and make products.
- Use drawing, painting, and sculpture to develop and share ideas, experiences, and imagination.
- Develop and master techniques in colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, form, and space.
- Know about notable artists and craft makers, comparing styles and materials and relating these to their own work.
- Develop fine motor skills appropriate for manipulating and assembling 3D artwork.

#### Artist Inspiration:

**Pablo Picasso:** Pioneer of Constructed Sculpture and Cubism; redefining form through 3D construction.

**Betty Pepper:** Designer and storyteller using paper to create miniature houses and architectural sculptures.

**Camille Ortoli:** Paper designer known for intricate and delicate paper sculptures inspired by nature.

**Ana Sofia Casaverde:** Miniaturist whose detailed paper constructions reflect architectural and organic forms.

**Justine Smith:** Paper sculpture artist experimenting with sustainable materials.

#### Theme

**Buildings and Nature:** Pupils explore architectural structures such as houses and shops, alongside natural forms like plants and flowers, creating sculptures that combine observational drawing, craft, and storytelling.

The theme is supported by storybooks reflecting "home" and surroundings, encouraging imaginative connections.

## Tools and Materials

Cardboard and greyboard (recycled cereal boxes, shoe boxes, packaging)

White and coloured papers (including recycled papers, old book pages, envelopes)

Wire (pre-cut lengths for safety)

Scissors (including sharpened scissors for older pupils)

Glue sticks, masking tape, cello tape, double-sided sticky tape

Pencils for drawing and planning

Paints, oil pastels, coloured pens for decorating sculptures

Paper clips (optional, for construction aid)

## Resources/Imagery/Links

### Visual Inspiration:

- High-quality images and examples of featured artists' paper and wire sculptures.
- Photographs of birds, flowers, houses, street scenes, and details of nature for reference and inspiration.
- Storybooks: *A House That Once Was* (Julia Fogliano), *Home* (Carson Ellis), *House Held Up by Trees* (Ted Kooser), *Iggy Peck, Architect* (Andrea Beaty).
- Online artist portfolios and videos demonstrating paper sculpting techniques (teacher curated).
- Visual step-by-step guides for paper cutting, layering, forming newspaper armatures, and wire bending.

### Implementation Tips:

- Model all cutting, taping, and shaping techniques while emphasising safety and careful handling of tools and wire.
- Scaffold the process by encouraging initial sketches and planning in sketchbooks.
- Encourage pupils to experiment with textures and layering to add interest and depth.
- Use group work to develop collaborative skills when creating larger sculptures or group installations.
- Provide differentiated support through templates and varying complexity of tasks.
- Use peer assessment and reflective discussions to foster critical thinking about materials and form.
- Connect artwork to narrative through book exploration and conversations about "home" and surroundings.

## Techniques/Process

- Paper cutting, folding, and layering to build and texturise surfaces.
- Constructing armatures for 3D form using compacted newspaper and masking tape.
- Wire shaping and bending for structural elements such as legs, flower stems, or architectural details.
- Applying collage and paint to decorate and enhance sculptural surfaces.
- Combining multiple materials to create mixed-media sculptures focusing on the interplay of form, texture, and colour.

## Weekly Lesson Plan

## Week 1: Introduction to 3D Form and Artist Inspirations

**Learning Focus:** Understand key differences between 2D and 3D art, gather inspiration from artists who use paper/wire, and begin developing initial design ideas.

### Activities:

- Discuss 3D art and its difference from 2D.
- Explore artists' paper and wire sculptures through images and videos.
- Pupils begin initial observational drawings of birds, flowers, houses, or shops.
- Introduce available materials and safety guidelines.

**Differentiation:** Provide simpler shapes and tracing templates for less confident pupils; encourage detailed quick sketches for more confident pupils.

**Assessment:** Observe sketching skills and engagement with artists' work.

## Week 2: Starting Simple - Plant Pots and Flowers

**Learning Focus:** Explore basic 3D construction methods using recycled materials to create a functional sculptural form.

### Activities:

- Pupils create simple 3D plant pots using cardboard and recycled materials.
- Draw and design flowers or plants to accompany pots.
- Assemble basic 3D forms, focusing on cutting, shaping, and taping securely.
- Decorate with coloured or patterned papers.

**Differentiation:** Provide pre-cut templates for assembly; challenge confident pupils to add detailed decoration and layered textures.

**Assessment:** Evaluate construction skills and creativity in decoration.

## Week 3: Building Plant Stalks and Adding Details

**Learning Focus:** Develop fine motor skills by shaping and assembling cylindrical forms and adding layered details.

### Activities:

- Roll thin strips of card to form stalks; attach paper leaves and flowers.
- Assemble stalks into pots securely using tape.
- Encourage adding finer details such as insects or additional plant features.

**Differentiation:** Offer wire options for stronger stalks for advanced pupils. Provide step-by-step support for constructing stems if needed.

**Assessment:** Review stability and creativity in assembly and decoration.

## Week 4: Group Sculptures – Designing Buildings and Environments

**Learning Focus:** Collaborate to design and begin constructing small-scale architectural sculptures, applying earlier construction skills.

### Activities:

- Pupils work in small groups to design and create miniature building sculptures, e.g., flats, houses, treehouses.
- Use cardboard boxes and recycled packaging as bases.
- Explore mark-making and texture with collage, oil pastels, and pens.
- Combine and arrange sculptures on circular bases (teacher assisted with layout).

**Differentiation:** Scaffold group work with roles and structured planning templates. Challenge groups to incorporate more complex architectural details.

**Assessment:** Assess collaboration, design planning, and creative use of materials.

## Week 5: Adding Detail and Refinement to Group Sculptures

**Learning Focus:** Enhance sculptures with narrative-driven features and refine construction for presentation.

### Activities:

- Continue working on group projects by adding birds, flowers, names, and decoration.
- Refine assembly, ensure structural stability, and enhance textural surfaces.

**Differentiation:** Promote leadership in groups for pupils confident with construction. Offer additional technical support for others as needed.

**Assessment:** Check quality of detail work, teamwork, and finishing touches.

## Week 6: Finalising and Reflecting on Sculptures

**Learning Focus:** Finalise sculptures as individual or collaborative pieces and reflect on artistic process and outcomes.

### Activities:

- Complete all sculptures, reviewing stability and decoration.
- Create a final collaborative display or small installations.
- Discuss connections to artist work and narrative inspirations.
- Optional: Link project to local heritage or environment for additional context.

**Assessment:** Review overall craftsmanship, creative expression, and engagement with the unit's theme.

## Learning Outcomes

By the end of the unit, pupils will be able to:

- Understand and apply the principles of 3D sculpture using paper, cardboard, and wire.
- Demonstrate confidence in construction techniques such as cutting, rolling, taping, and bending.

- Develop fine motor skills through precise manipulation and assembly of materials.
- Use observational skills and imagination to create sculptures inspired by natural and architectural forms.
- Explore and apply surface decoration techniques to enhance texture, pattern, and colour.
- Work collaboratively, sharing responsibility and ideas in group sculpture projects.
- Reflect on and articulate their artistic choices, linking their work to professional artists and narrative themes.