



Functional Art has a use along with an aesthetic appearance. This lesson has been written as a Universal Design Lesson and is appropriate for any age and any ability. Crazy Quilts are the inspiration for the functional art form. Note cards can be shared with family members and friends or sold as part of a business venture.

Lesson Plan Overview

History of Crazy Quilts began in the United States during the Colonial time period. Clothing was recycled to save money. Useable sections were recombined with others with no planned design in shape, color, or material. Pieces of fabric appeared to be randomly attached together to create quilts and clothing. During 1876 at the Centennial Exposition, Japanese art featured ceramics that had a crazed finish. This technique created a random overall pattern that seemed to influence embellishment to the Crazy Quilts. Needlework was added as an embellishment. Sometimes the embroidery was so ornate that the fabric could not be seen. The crazy quilt design was created out of necessity rather than planned design.

Using crazy quilts as inspiration students will create note cards with a variety of adhesive backed papers. The overall design will appear random with overlapping pieces of adhesive papers and drawing marks for embellishment.

Vocabulary

- Variety
- Random
- Overlap
- Recycle
- Embellish



National Standards

- Visual Arts Content Standard 1
Understanding and applying media, techniques, and processes.
- Visual Arts Content Standard 2
Using knowledge of structures and functions.
- Visual Arts Content Standard 4
Understanding the visual arts in relation to history and cultures.

Objectives

- identify elements and principles of art found in Crazy Quilts such as, color, pattern, and variety.
- develop fine and gross motor skills while cutting adhesive papers and then peeling and placing the pieces.
- combine materials to create a Crazy Quilt designed note card.
- relate random design of his/her note card to the random design in a Crazy Quilt.



Create pattern and/or design on address labels. Include letter shapes too. This can be done with either drawing materials such as markers, colored pencils and pens or the design may be developed using the computer and printed in black and white or color. Allow students to choose combinations of materials.



Use Adapt-A-Hold® to hold the address label and cut with Adapt-A-Cut® to make straight strips. Cut address labels into strips by starting at the bottom of the address label and continue to the top edge. Cut contact papers into strips to include a variety of textures and colors.



Fold cardstock into a card, 5 1/4" x 4 1/4". Show an example of finished cards. Artwork maybe added to any side of the card, including the inside. Art will be viewed with the fold either at the top or the left side of the card. The artwork on the center cards were inspired by the **Cutting Shapes** page within our website.



Peel and place address labels along with contact paper onto the cardstock in a random manner. Pieces may overlap. Letters may be added to include a message or an artist's name. Recycle pieces of fabric and add to the note card by using carpet tape on the back of the fabric.



Embellish the crazy quilt design by adding marks over the address labels and contact paper. The marks can be dotted lines to represent stitches or drawings of shapes to represent visual stories. The back of the card could display the artist's first name, school, city, and state.



Combine finished note cards with envelopes. Sets of cards and envelopes can be given to family and friends or can be part of a fundraiser to help support more art experiences.