



Lacewood Primary School – Progression in the technique of Sculpture

Overview

Sculpture has been a popular art form for thousands of years. The skill that goes into creating a worthwhile piece of art is incredible, and a single piece can take years for an artist to create. Because sculptures are primarily made of stone, there's a much greater chance of them surviving than a painting or drawing. This means we still have evidence of sculptures that were made over 2,000 years ago!

Natural materials (Transient art)

Transient art is the use of loose parts or natural objects to make art that is 'moveable' and not permanent. It can be evolved and developed over time. It allows children to embrace the process rather than the product. As well as being able to continuously develop and grow their ideas, think of new ideas, reflect, and change their art piece.

Both Andy Goldsworthy and Richard Shilling are famous nature artists, who make arrangements with natural materials (or what we might coin the phrase natural loose parts). They produce wonderful and beautiful made sculpture pieces out in nature and are highly inspirational for those of you who want to explore natural art using loose parts.

Clay Sculpture

Clay is good for sculpting because it is very malleable before being heated. You can also paint and varnish it. There are different types of clay such as porcelain clay, red clay and black clay. In school, we use air-drying clay as we do not have a kiln for firing.

Relief Sculpture

Relief sculptures are created by carving into a piece of stone or wood, using tools that cut away the raised grains of the surface. Reliefs are used to decorate buildings, tombs, monuments, statues, and other similar objects. While there are some very famous reliefs in history, the term is generally used for less well-known examples or even to general carved sculptures.

Paper Sculpture

Paper sculpture can be defined as an artwork that is created by combining or shaping different types of paper.

Wire Sculpture

Wire sculpture is the creation of sculpture or jewellery out of wire. The use of metal wire in jewellery dates back to the 2nd Dynasty in Egypt and to the Bronze and Iron Ages in Europe.

Artists and sculptors rely on premium wire to create intimate wire sculptures and sturdy armatures for ceramics, plaster, and paper sculpture. In school, Y2 learn about the use of wire as a material to create a sculpture and Y5 and Y6 learn about the use of wire armature as a base for creating a clay or papier mache sculpture.

At Lacewood, sculpture is taught as a half term unit in every year group. Different forms of sculpture (natural materials, clay, paper and wire) are covered to provide the children with a varied overview of the different techniques of sculpture artists may use.

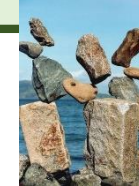
In FS1, children begin to explore the qualities of various malleable materials e.g.: clay, plasticine, play dough and wet sand. In addition, they explore the qualities of materials for their shape and form through balancing and stacking to create stability. Photographs of sculptures and buildings are located in provision to inspire their creations.



In FS2, children are introduced to sculpture through the exploration of transient art and the works of Andy Goldsworthy. The children produce 'Goldsworthy' inspired sculptures in the outdoor environment and natural materials are available as continuous provision.



In Y1, children build upon the knowledge they have gained in FS1 and 2 and continue to explore sculpture with natural materials. They revisit the work of Andy Goldsworthy and extend this knowledge by visiting the YSP and also exploring the works of Bill Dan and Walter Mason



In Y2, children build upon the knowledge they have gained in Y1 and begin to link their sculpture knowledge to different forms. Children are introduced to wire sculpture through their study of the sculptor 'Alexander Calder' and his mobile and stable structures.



In Y3, children build upon the knowledge they have gained in Y2 and begin to explore further forms of sculpting material. Children use clay to create an engraved 'petroglyph' slab, inspired by 'cave art' and created by removing part of a clay surface by incising, picking or carving.



In Y4, children study the closely related art form of architecture. Although this is not sculpture, children are introduced to the concept of 'architectural sculpture' through exploring the works of Zaha Hadid. Children create paper and card inspired architectural sculptures of buildings. Linking to work in Y2, when children observe the architectures of London landmarks.



In Y5, children build upon the knowledge they have gained in Y4 and begin to develop their knowledge of wire armatures (wire framed bodies), wrapped with clay or foil. Children create models of Lowry's matchstick men, women and children to change a 2-D painting into a 3-D sculpture.



In Y6, children build upon the knowledge they have gained in Y5 and continue to develop their knowledge of wire armatures, wrapped with clay, designing and creating sculptures inspired by the work of Henry Moore and Barbara Hepworth. This knowledge is further enhanced with a visit to the YSP for an artist led workshop and opportunity to see Moore and Hepworth sculptures up close.

