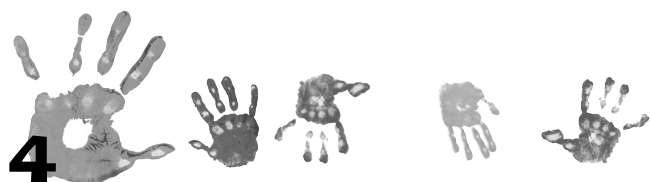




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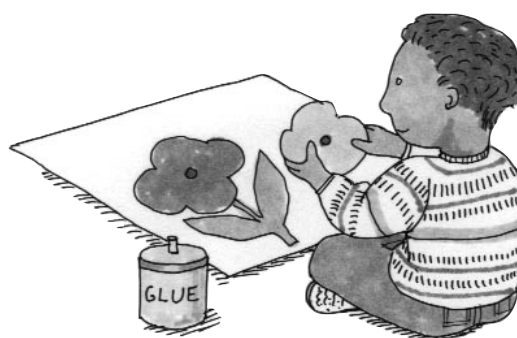
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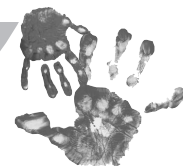
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Spiral Lines



Getting Ready:

- Record player
- White paper plates
- Brightly-colored or neon markers
- Slinky®

Note: Cut a small hole in the center of each paper plate.

Exploring Art:

Increase the student's repertoire of line by introducing "spirals." Provide the child with a Slinky® and a chance to experiment with its movement on stairs. Place the paper plate on the turntable of the record player. Have the children take turns holding a marker above the plate as it turns (a light touch is needed). Change colors frequently.



What's Next?

Show the children how to cut a spiral line from a square piece of paper.

Peel an apple with an apple corer. Note the spiral line formed by the skin.



Lining Things Up



Making Paper



Getting Ready:

- 40 sheets of bathroom tissue
- Mixing bowl
- Blender or eggbeater
- Approximately 4 cups (950 ml) of water
- 1 cup (240 ml) of liquid starch
- 102 mm square wire screening, one per child
- Masking tape
- Rolling pin
- Blotting paper or old newspapers
- *Barnyard Banter* by Denise Fleming (Henry Holt, 1994)

Note: To prevent injuries, tape the edges of each piece of wire screen with masking tape.



Exploring Art:

Introduce the class to Denise Fleming, an original illustrator who incorporates her illustrations into the papermaking process. Color is added to the pulp as the paper is made, making the picture part of the paper. This will make an interesting presentation either before or after this experience. Her book *Barnyard Banter* is an interesting one to share with the children.

This art experience works best as a small group activity. Tear the bathroom tissue into small pieces and put them in the blender. Add the water and liquid starch and blend until all of the ingredients are mixed. Transfer to a mixing bowl. Pour some of the mixture onto each child's small screen. Place the screen on a pad of newspaper and roll with a rolling pin to be rid of all excess water. Peel the newly-made paper off the screen and lay it aside to dry. For a more interesting mixture, try adding grass, flower petals, glitter, strings, or orange peels. Discuss the results. *Does the end product look like school paper? Why or why not? What shape is yours?*



What's Next?

Mount a school picture of each child to his or her paper shape to make a special holiday gift.





Shape Takes Form



Form is an extension of shape. Shape becomes form when it acquires depth and volume. On a flat surface, artists create form through shading and highlighting. More commonly, form is three dimensional and occupies space. It can be representational, nonrepresentational, geometric, or free-flowing.

What Young Children Know

Creating three dimensional form is probably one of the young child's most favorite art activities. Children are natural manipulators of malleable substances and love to poke, pull, punch, squeeze, stretch, roll, and cut them. Young artists seem to find working with these substances not only fun, but soothing and often demonstrate an ability to concentrate for long periods of time. At this early stage of development, children need an adequate supply of workable materials to explore. Detail is not very important to young children and is, in fact, absent from most of their work. The pleasure is rooted more in the creation process than in any particular finished product. Young children's love of blocks shows us that they enjoy building things. Constructing forms, then, is a natural and important aspect of their artistic creative expression.

Masters of Form

Although not among the more traditional masters of form, young children really appreciate the work of Jasper Johns and Louise Nevelson. John's *Painted Bronz*, 1960, Private Collections, is a wonderful example of the art that was being created in the late 1950s. By taking two beer cans and casting them in bronze, he immortalized the commonplace. Louise Nevelson, an original American sculptor, transformed old pieces of wood and other discarded or "found" objects into beautiful and powerful, black, white, or gold sculptures. Her *Sun Garden No. 1*, 1964, Collection Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Diker, and other charismatic works made of dozens of individual boxes filled with hundreds of carefully arranged found objects are especially appealing to youngsters.

