PICASSO GUITARS
THE ART OF COLLAGE
ART AND MUSIC
GRADE: 2

OBJECTIVES
● Students will compare and contrast guitar styles from both a musical and artistic standpoint.
● Students will demonstrate increased skill and craftsmanship of cutting and gluing through application of collage techniques.
● Students will create an abstract work of art using a variety of provided materials.

CONCEPT
In this lesson, students are working to make connections between art and music. We will be looking at examples of guitars from both a musical and artistic standpoint; discussing the differences between function (sounds creation) over form (design). Students will be using collage techniques to create their own guitars in the style of Picasso’s abstract art.

MATERIALS
● 12x18 light blue construction paper
● Sheet music copies
● 3in. pre-cut strips of blue construction paper (neck)
● Assorted sizes of construction paper: light blue, dark blue, tan, white, and black

Georges Chanot (1801-1873)
Guitar, 1846
maple, ivory, mother of pearl, spruce, paint, pearl, ebony, nickel, brass, bone resin, spruce, paint, pearl
1914.313

Unidentified Maker
Guitar, Italy
pine or spruce, ivory, mother of pearl, cellulose or poplar, mastic, unidentified stained wood, tortoiseshell, metal, gold leaf paper
1952.47
CLASS EXPERIENCE

- Scissors
- Glue sticks (or liquid glue)
- Silver foil tape, or aluminum foil
- String
- Sharpies
- Eraser
- Pencil
- *The Old Guitarist* and CAM Guitar images (one for each table group)
- “Guitar body styles” handout (one for each table group)
- Circle tracers (big circle and slightly smaller circle)
- Drinking straws (some students used these for “tuning keys”)

**VOCABULARY**

Abstract – art that does not represent something from real life.

Cubism – artistic style in which a subject was broken down into its geometrical components and often represented from several angles at once.

Blue Period - somber period between 1900 and 1904, when Picasso painted essentially monochromatic paintings in shades of blue and blue-green, only occasionally warmed by other colors.

Collage – art created by overlapping and layering various materials.

Shape - outlining edge of a flat, 2-D object.

Overlapping - to lay on top of something else.

**PROCEDURE**

- **DAY 1** → View and discuss Picasso’s *The Old Guitarist*. What type of music might he be playing? How might he be feeling? How would this image be different if Picasso used shades of yellow? What do you see? Discuss “Blue Period.” View images of 2 guitars from CAM collection. Look at the types of guitars and discuss what types of music they might play/sounds they may make. Compare/contrast body styles. Where might these guitars be from? What are they made of?

  Students will choose a guitar body style to draw on 12x18 sheet of light blue paper. Demonstrate how to draw symmetrically by folding paper in half. Cut out. Collect.

- **DAY 2** → Distribute guitar bodies from previous class. Students will use light or dark blue construction paper (pre-cut into 3in. wide strips) to attach neck of guitar. Using a big circle tracer, students will trace/cut/glue sheet music to add “sound hole” area. A black construction paper circle can be cut/glued on top of sheet music. Collect.

- **DAY 3** → Begin work on neck area (frets). Discuss collage and have students begin using various construction paper scraps to add shapes/designs to guitar.

- **DAY 4** → Use silver foil tape to attach strings. Pre-cut strings, each student receives 3.

- **DAY 5** → Can be used for an extra work day.

**ASSESSMENT**

Assessment will be based on:

- Creativity and problem solving: student shows unique ideas. Includes extra shapes and various colors. Fills the space!
- Use of supplies: student shows skill in cutting and gluing, shapes are clean and glued neatly.
- Daily effort and use of class time.
- Assignment and directions: student follows directions and includes all parts of the assignment… and then some!
- Craftsmanship: student work is nice, neat, and complete. Exceptional attention to detail.
NATIONAL STANDARDS
VA:Cr3.1.2a: Discuss and reflect with peers about choices made in creating artwork.
VA:Re8.1.2a: Interpret art by identifying the mood suggested by a work of art and describing relevant subject matter and characteristics of form.
VA:Re9.1.2a: Use learned art vocabulary to express preferences about artwork.
VA:Cn10.1.2a: Create works of art about events in home, school, or community life.
VA:Cn11.1.2a: Compare and contrast cultural uses of artwork from different times and places.
VA:Cr2.1.2a: Experiment with various materials and tools to explore personal interests in a work of art or design.
VA:Cr2.3.2a: Repurpose objects to make something new.

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS
- **Science**: students could discuss sounds waves, vibrations, and frequencies that come from various shapes of guitars.
- **Social Studies**: students could discuss guitars from various parts of the world and the materials that are used to make them.
- **Language Arts**: students could write song lyrics either individually or with their table group as a follow-up/ reflection to the creation of their guitars.

RESOURCES
Cubism: [https://www.moma.org/learn/moma_learning/themes/cubism/](https://www.moma.org/learn/moma_learning/themes/cubism/)
Blue Period: [https://www.pablopicasso.org/blue-period.jsp285](https://www.pablopicasso.org/blue-period.jsp285)
The Old Guitarist image: [https://www.pablopicasso.org/old-guitarist.jsp](https://www.pablopicasso.org/old-guitarist.jsp)
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EXAMPLES OF STUDENT WORK