

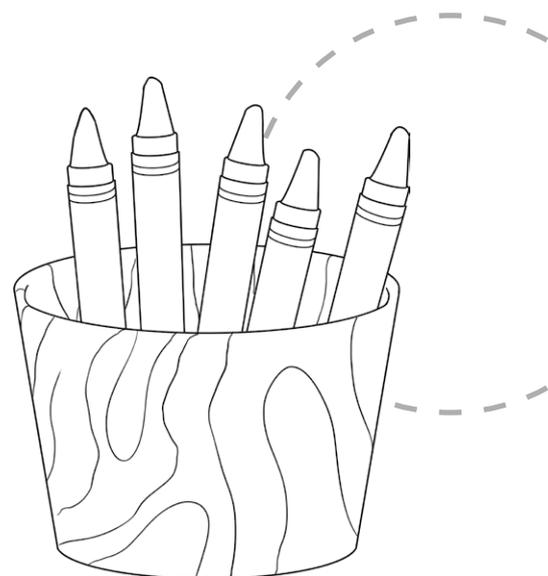
Discovering Design Principles: Activity

Objective:

To introduce Grade 7 learners to basic design principles through a fun and interactive art activity.

Materials Needed:

- White paper (one sheet per student).
- Coloured pencils, markers, or crayons.
- Scissors
- Glue
- Construction paper in various colours.
- Rulers (optional)



Instructions:

1. Introduction (10 minutes):

- Briefly explain the five basic design principles: balance, contrast, emphasis, pattern, and unity.
 - **Balance:** Making sure elements are evenly distributed.
 - **Contrast:** Using differences in colour, shape, or size to make something stand out.
 - **Emphasis:** Making a part of the artwork stand out.
 - **Pattern:** Repeating shapes, lines, or colours.
 - **Unity:** Making all parts of the artwork feel like they belong together.
- Show examples (drawn on a whiteboard, blackboard or displayed on a projector) of each principle.

2. Activity - Create a Design (30 minutes):

- Give each learner a sheet of white paper.
- Ask the learners to fold their paper into four sections by folding it in half, twice.
- In each section, they will create a design that illustrates one of the first four principles (balance, contrast, emphasis, and pattern).

- **Top-left section (Balance):** Draw or cut out shapes and arrange them so the design feels even.
- **Top-right section (Contrast):** Use contrasting colours or shapes to make parts of their design stand out.
- **Bottom-left section (Emphasis):** Create a design where one part is the focal point.
- **Bottom-right section (Pattern):** Create a repeating pattern using shapes, lines, or colours.

- Use coloured pencils, markers, or crayons for drawing. Construction paper and scissors can be used to cut out shapes, which can then be glued onto the white paper.

3. Discussion and Unity (20 minutes):

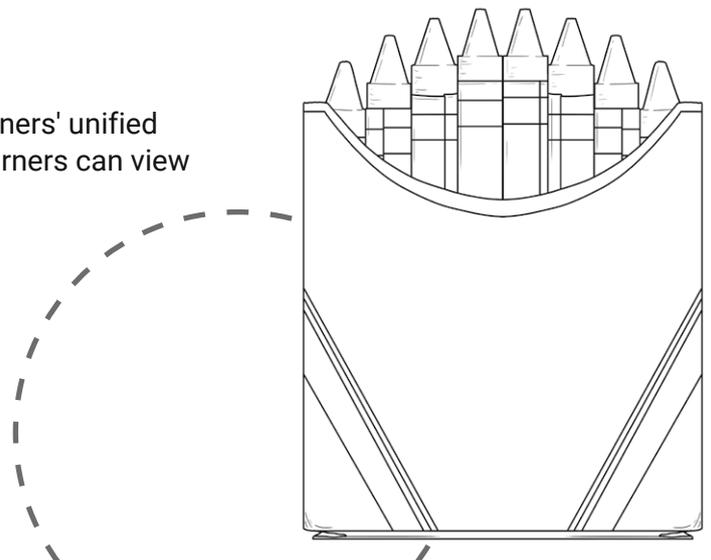
- After the designs are complete, have learners share their artwork with the class, explaining which principle each section represents.
- Finally, explain the principle of **unity**. Ask learners to think about how they could bring their four designs together into one cohesive artwork.
- Optionally, have learners create a new piece of art on a fresh sheet of paper that combines all four sections, using what they learned to create a unified design.

4. Reflection (10 minutes):

- Conclude the activity with a discussion. Ask students:
 - What was their favourite part of the activity?
 - Which design principle did they find the easiest or hardest to understand and why?
 - How do these principles help make art look interesting and organised?

Extension Activity:

- Create a classroom gallery by displaying all the learners' unified designs on the wall. Have a "gallery walk" where learners can view and discuss each other's work.



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MEMORANDUM

Assessment Criteria:

1. Understanding and Application of Design Principles:

- **Balance:**
 - Check if the learner has arranged elements so that the design feels even.
 - Look for symmetry or visual equilibrium.
- **Contrast:**
 - Ensure the learner has used contrasting colours, shapes, or sizes.
 - Identify if certain parts stand out clearly against others.
- **Emphasis:**
 - Verify if one part of the artwork is the focal point.
 - Check for techniques like size difference, colour highlighting, or positioning to draw attention.
- **Pattern:**
 - Confirm if the learner has created a repeating design.
 - Look for consistent use of shapes, lines, or colours in a sequence.
- **Unity**
 - Assess how well the learner combines all four principles into one cohesive artwork.
 - Look for a harmonious integration of elements from the four sections.

2. Creativity and Effort:

- Evaluate the originality and creativity in the designs.
- Note the effort put into creating detailed and thoughtful artwork.

3. Participation in Discussion:

- Observe the learner's willingness to share and explain their artwork.
- Assess understanding through explanations of how each design represents the principles.

4. Reflection and Critical Thinking:

- Evaluate the learner's ability to reflect on their favourite part of the activity and the challenges faced.
- Consider insights on how design principles help organise and enhance artwork.

Sample Memorandum Template:

Learner Name	Balance	Contrast	Emphasis	Pattern	Unity	Creativity	Participation	Reflection
[Name]	[✓/ x]	[✓/ x]	[✓/ x]	[✓/ x]	[✓/ x]	[✓/ x]	[✓/ x]	[✓/ x]
Comments: [Provide specific feedback on strengths and areas for improvement]								

Key:

- ✓ = Demonstrated understanding and application.
- x = Needs improvement

Final Remarks:

- Encourage learners to explore design principles in future projects.
- Highlight the importance of each principle in creating visually appealing and well-organised artwork.