

The Colorful Homes of La Boca, Argentina

Grade Level: 5-8

Multicultural, Cross Curricular-Art and Social Studies

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Description:

From 1880 to 1930, Italian immigrants settled in La Boca, a neighborhood along the ports of Buenos Aires, Argentina. La Boca takes its name from a port where a stream meets the mouth or la boca of a large river. Because the settlers could not afford paint for their houses, they used the leftover paint that was used to paint the ships in the dock. As a result, the buildings which are covered in scraps of corrugated metal are painted using many bright colors.

Objectives:

- Students will create exciting compositions using blocks of color that will come together to make the façade of a La Boca home.
- Students will use different materials to create a mixed media, 3-dimensional representation of a La Boca home.
- Students will learn about the history of the colorful neighborhood of La Boca and the resourcefulness of its settlers, therefore drawing a correlation between good use of resources and artistic creativity.

Materials:

Savage® TruBlack Presentation Board, Pkg. of 10, 11" x 14" (408126-705)
Precut Decorator Foil, Pkg. of 12, Coppertone, 38-Ga., 5" x 5" (578783-705)
Sax® Colored Art Paper, 50-Sheet Pkg, Assorted, 12" x 18" (402024-705)
Corru-Gator™ Paper Crimper, Standard (315264-705)
UHU® Glue Stics, 1.41-Oz (037091-705)
Sax® True-Tak Super Thick White Glue, 4-Oz. Bottle (432689-705)
Glue Dots™, Pkg. of 2500 with Double Liner (402537-705)
No. 1 X-Acto® Gripster Knife (447194-705)

You Will Also Need:

Scratch paper for preliminary sketches
Pencils
Scissors



Directions:

1. Find photos of La Boca, Buenos Aires in travel books and on the Internet and discuss with your students. Point out how the residents of this colorful area have managed to make their homes beautiful despite their limited resources.
2. On scratch paper sketch a rough plan of a La Boca-style home, thinking about where you want to use certain colors and shapes of flat and corrugated material.
3. Use the Corru-Gator paper crimper to crimp sheets of foil and/or art paper.
4. Cut foil and art paper to accommodate dimensions in your sketch.
5. Use Sax True-Tak Super Thick White Glue to glue your pieces of crimped art paper to the presentation board and the Glue Dots to adhere the heavier foil pieces. The UHU Glue Stic might come in handy for gluing large areas of flat paper.
6. Use a No.1 X-Acto Gripster Knife to cut details like shutters slats or window panes and frames.

National Art Standards:

Content Standard #1: Understanding and applying media techniques and processes

Grades 5-8: Students intentionally take advantage of the qualities and characteristics of art media, techniques and processes to enhance communication of their experiences and ideas.

Content Standard #3: Choosing and evaluating a range of subject matter, symbols and ideas

Grades 5-8: Students use subjects, themes and symbols that demonstrate knowledge of contexts, values, and aesthetics that communicate intended meaning in artworks.

Content Standard #4: Understanding the visual arts in relation to history and cultures

Grades 5-8: Students analyze, describe and demonstrate how factors of time and place (such as climate, resources, ideas, and technology) influence visual characteristics that give meaning and value to a work of art.

Content Standard #5: Reflecting upon and assessing the characteristics and merits of their work and the work of others

Grades 5-8: Students analyze contemporary and historic meanings in specific artworks through cultural and aesthetic inquiry.

Content Standard #6: Making connections between visual arts and other disciplines

Grades 5-8: Students describe ways in which the principles and subject matter of other disciplines taught in the school are interrelated with the visual arts.