

Mondrian and Measurement

Fourth Grade + Math and Visual Arts

CORE SUBJECT AREA

Math

ART FORM + ELEMENTS

Visual

Drawing

Line

Color

Space

MSCCR STANDARDS

4.MD.1, 4.MD.3, 4.G.1

MSCCR CREATIVE ARTS STANDARDS

VA:Cr1.2.4 Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work. Collaboratively set goals and create artwork that is meaningful and has purpose to the makers.

DURATION

60 Minutes

OBJECTIVES

Students will be able to know and/or do...

1. Measure using the customary (inches) and metric (millimeters and centimeters) system.
2. Create a Mondrian piece using lines, right angles, and perpendicular lines.
3. Find the perimeter and area of a rectangle.

MATERIALS NEEDED

White paper, markers or colored pencils in primary colors (blue, red, yellow), black construction paper, glue, rulers

VOCABULARY

Area, perimeter, inches, millimeters, centimeters, primary color (mother of all colors), right angle

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

Powerpoint on Piet Mondrian (This can be found online. There are many to choose from.) Videos to reinforce the concept of area and perimeter: https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=area+and+perimeter

LESSON SEQUENCE

1. The teacher will present a powerpoint presentation on Piet Mondrian and show examples of his work. The teacher will focus on how Mondrian used lines and primary colors to create his art. The teacher will also point out perpendicular lines and the right angles they form.
2. The teacher explains to students that they will create a piece of art in the style of Piet Mondrian. Students will use a ruler to make straight lines and make sure they create right angles.
3. Next, students will take black construction paper and create strips to cover the lines. Students will glue the black strips over their lines.
4. Students will choose three rectangles and color them. Students should have at least one of each primary color. Students can color more than three. However, remind students that Mondrian left some white by referring back to examples.
5. Then, students will measure each colored rectangle using a ruler. The students will record their measurements

in cm and inches.

6. After getting the measurements, students will find the perimeter and area of each rectangle.

7. The teacher will wrap-up the lesson and have students participate in “High-Five Hustle.” Students stand up, raise their hands, and high-five a peer. Once everyone is paired up, the teacher will ask students to share with their partner something they learned or enjoyed from today’s lesson.

EXTENDED LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Converting measurements could easily be added into the lesson by having students convert the centimeters into millimeters.

SOURCES

Lesson Written by Melissa Tingle, 4th grade Math Teacher

TIPS + FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

*Pre-cut strips of black construction paper are ideal for this lesson in order to save a great deal of time. Strips of paper need to vary in sizes and width.

*Black electrical tape or painter's tape could also work for the black lines as a time saver.