

Peter Max-Style Ties

Have your students look at the graphic designs of contemporary artist Peter Max. He became well-known in the 1960's for his "Cosmic Art" style, with distinctive shapes, lines and bold colors. His imagery on record albums and posters defined the popular art of the era.

As a Father's Day gift or a simple lesson in designing wearable art, these fun, bright ties will be very popular with your students!

Grade Levels K-12

Process

1. Discuss Pop Art and share images of works by Peter Max, Roy Lichtenstein, Andy Warhol, Claes Oldenburg, and Jasper Johns, and discuss each of the Pop Art styles.
2. Before they get started on their ties, have the students trace the tie pattern onto a piece of tag board and also on a piece of white drawing paper. Cut them both out.
3. Use the drawing paper tie as a planning piece. Students use pencil and markers to make a sketch of what they are going to place on their ties. Remind them that they will be cutting the shapes out of paper and that fine lines and details won't be possible.
4. Begin with the background colors first. If it is one color, just have the student trace the shape of the tie on it. Then cut and glue it to the tag. The background can be multiple colors. For example, green grass and blue sky.
5. Students will draw the shapes on the back side (white side) of the Fadeless paper before cutting them out, to avoid pencil marks. It would be best not to allow them to use lettering, because it will have to be done in reverse. Cut out each piece and glue it to the background until the tie is complete.

Lesson Plan and Artwork submitted by
Michele L. Scureman, Upper St. Clair, PA

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Materials

2-Ply Tag Board, white (13111-1007), 12" x 18", need one per student

Blick White Sulphite Drawing Paper, 60-lb (10209-1007), 12" x 18", need one sheet per student

Fadeless® Art Paper (12885-1006) 12" x 18" pad of 40 sheets in assorted colors, share two pads across classroom

Fiskars® Scissors for Kids (57010-1005), need one per student

Blick Washable White Glue (23872-1045), share one bottle between two students

Blick Economy Graphite Pencils, box of 12 (20302-1009), need one per student

Prang® Washable Markers (21267-1189), 8-color set, share one set between two students

National Standards

Content Standard #1 — Understanding and applying media, techniques, and processes

K-4 Students use art materials and tools in a safe and responsible manner

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

K-4 Students explore and understand prospective content for works of art