

“Art is the highest form of hope.” - Gerard Richter (German painter)

Upper Elementary Art

Monday, March 30 - Friday, April 3

Dear Families and Students,

I will be checking work through email. I will request photographs of your finished projects each week. I am also available for google hangouts each day during office hours, so if anyone wants to check in, show me their work, sketch together, brainstorm ideas, show me some epic failures (we all have those!) or just say hi feel free to hangout with me online! I'd love to see you!

Sincerely,

Ms. Skor - m.skor@aidanschool.org

Hello Artists! It is spring. Do you hear the birds chirping outside? Have you observed the new buds and flowers on the trees? Even though we are cooped up, I love that I can still step outside every day and feel the rain and the sun, hear the wind, and feel that everything is constantly changing, and growing. I hope that you, too, are enjoying our changing environment each day.

If you could find the ideal place for it, and design your ultimate tree house where you could go every day and do whatever you want, what would it look like? Would it have many sections connected by ziplines? Maybe a waterslide or a game room or a trap door? Maybe a fluffy exit pillow to jump into for quick getaways? A deck with a telescope for stargazing?

Your art challenge from Monday through Thursday this week is to **create a 3D model of a fun, creative treehouse.**

For a little inspiration check out this [video of a treehouse inspired by a beehive!](#)

The minimum supplies you would need would be:

- Paper (also if you have any cardboard, toilet paper tubes, cereal boxes, shoe boxes, etc. all those could be useful)
- Scissors
- Coloring tools: pencils, markers, etc.
- Tape and/or glue

But you can also use anything else you can find in the house, so be creative with materials! Pasta, legos, cotton balls, toothpicks, tinfoil, who knows what you could incorporate once you have some rooms and a basic construction to work with!

Monday:

Gather your initial materials, brainstorm (sketching ideas is always useful) and begin constructing. How will you make your construction like a tree house? Put your paper rooms on top of rolled paper trees and connect to a base? Attach your rooms to the side of a piece of cardboard or folded paper and draw the tree in? It can be attached to a background or freestanding. This pic is a clue of one way to construct some rooms (but your rooms don't have to be rectangular!). The measurements you can't read are 4 in and 2 in. Additional tip - you want to color in your room, add things to the walls, etc. before you assemble them.

Tuesday

Warm up by sketching your tree house logo in your sketchbook. What are the rules of your tree house club?

Continue to construct your house and add detail - what is in each room, are they drawn in or do you have 3D cut outs or other types of models? The more details the better!

Wednesday

Warm up by sketching some animals that you might find around your treehouse. Do you have a treehouse pet? You could add some animals to your diorama.

Continue to construct your treehouse and add fun details.

Thursday

Make a flag with the logo of your treehouse and add it to your awesome construction.

Make sure your tree house has:

A tree, or multiple trees, either 3D or drawn on your background base or both.

At least one fully contained room colored in and with 3D detail.

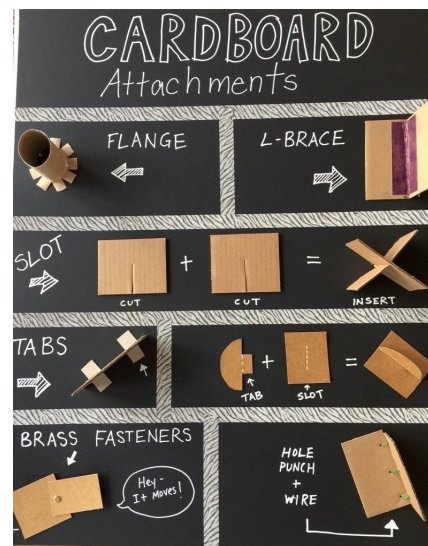
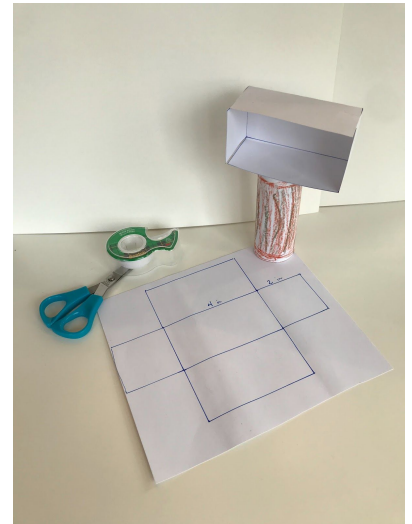
A way to get into the treehouse, and between rooms.

Did you come up with any interesting materials to use? Last chance if you have any more brainstorms of cool additions!

I will check your work through email. Please email me at

m.skor@aidanschool.org and include:

1. A photo of your treehouse (or a few)
2. Tell me which detail of your construction is your favorite
3. Tell me to what scale your model is - 1 inch on your model represents how many inches in real life, if you were to build your treehouse life size?? Try to estimate. Think about where your head



would be if you were standing in your tree house, that might give you an idea of scale.

I look forward to seeing your beautiful constructions!

Friday

Hello Artists! Today I have a fabulous and fun Friday challenge for you. Because you are learning from home, you are in the unique circumstance of being surrounded by all of your stuff. Today you are going to seize the opportunity to express yourself through some of the things you have at home.

Our project is called **ME: a still life**

The idea is that you are going to choose some things from around the house that help express who you are, and then create a really interesting still life with them. When I look at your still life, I should be able to learn some things about you.

Here, for example, is a photograph of my still life I created with some things from home.

Let me explain some of the things I included:

Ms. Skor: a still life

Camera (I like to take photographs)
A bowl of ice cream (my fave treat)
Cupcake paper liners (I love to bake)
Paintbrushes (I love to paint)
Some driftwood from my favorite beach
A tea bag (I drink tea every day)
A magazine (I read a lot)
A My Little Pony (can you see her peaking? I used to collect them)
A blue pen (my fave color)

So here are your directions:

STEP 1: Gather the things you would like to include in your still life. You must include a **minimum of 5** things, but there is no maximum. They could be favorite toys, your coziest socks, a book you're reading, foods you love, things that have special meaning... anything!

STEP 2: Gather all of your things on a surface and begin experimenting with arranging them in an interesting way. Don't just dump them in a pile, or set them next to each other...get creative!! How can you make the objects interact in a way that is unusual and unexpected? Experiment until you think you have your best design.



STEP 3: Take a photograph (or have your parent help you take a photograph) of your still life. But wait! Before you point and shoot, take a good look at your still life. Look from above, look from below, look from different sides. What is the best and most interesting place from which to photograph your new still life sculpture? I don't get to see it from every angle, so it has to be represented by this photographic image. Once you've found the best angle and take the photo, email it to me at m.skor@aidanschool.org. I can't wait to see it!!! I'm so excited to learn a bit more about you.

A note for parents about materials for next week:

Next week, in addition to the given art projects done with simple materials, I will send a list of a few simple art experiments that you can do with ingredients you may already have on hand in the kitchen. I thought I'd give you a list of the things I have on hand for these experiments and projects so you have a chance to get some of them if you think your kids will be interested in some extra activities that can be done inside or out (some are better outside!). These will not be required, so you are not required to purchase these things. However, students can substitute one of these activities for their daily art project if they wish. Since the one thing we all still have to do is get groceries, I thought you might appreciate knowing some of the simple things I do in the kitchen with all ages to explore with some sensory materials!

- Kitchen art materials:
- Flour
- Salt (minimum ½ cup per kid)
- Cornstarch
- Baking soda (1 full box per kid, or more)
- Cream of tartar
- White vinegar, medium bottle
- Dish soap
- Food coloring
- Straws (any kind)
- Kool aid packets or jello (to color/scent homemade play dough, jello makes it extra soft but get sugar free if you can)
- Tinfoil
- Cooking oil (I also always have shaving cream on hand - never gets old!)