



Murals and Mosaics
Artist: Lynn Takata



Lynn Takata

Grade Level:
K-Adult

About the Artist:

Lynn Takata creates participatory murals, mosaics and sculpture. She weaves together ideas from the participants who create the artwork in ceramics, glass and/or concrete. Takata is a supportive teacher who encourages creativity while teaching elements of art. She has created artwork at hundreds of schools in five states and over 50 exterior projects including the Oregon Zoo, Washington Park in Portland and for the Chicago Park District. She has a degree in Art Education and has received awards from Friends of the Parks, the Northwest Examiner and the Illinois Alliance for Arts in Education.

Objectives:

- To create a tile mosaic based on a theme chosen by the class or teacher
- To view mosaics from different distances to understand how the eye mixes colors
- To learn about elements of art while having fun
- To arrange colors of tile into an original mosaic from their drawing
- To use color and value to create contrast
- To express their ideas in a new media

Activities:

- Observe different styles of mosaics throughout history
- Brainstorm and draw their ideas on a theme
- Select one of their ideas to develop into a paper pattern
- Break tiles with a hammer wearing goggles (optional)
- Choose colors and arrange tiles into their subject matter
- Use nippers to cut one or more tiles
- Self-evaluation of their work and make any changes they desire
- Glue tile onto a flat or a curved surface
- Grout their artwork
- Optional creative writing about the subject matter

Simple shapes are best. Examples include: Butterflies, Plants and Flowers, Salmon, Symbols of Oregon, Weather, Geometric Shapes and The Solar System.

Workshop Size Limits:

- No more than 30 students with help from parent volunteers

Special Equipment:

- A cart for transporting supplies
- Package of paper towels
- Access to copy machine or computer and printer
- Small pieces of wood for each student, or flowerpot

Space Needed:

- Access to a sink or a cart with buckets of water
- Storage area for cart with tiles
- Counter or shelf to store artwork while it is being made

Connections to the Curriculum:

- Art history, art, history and language arts