

Ontario Grade 6 Visual Arts Curriculum Connections for the Activity: Exploring Line and Pattern with Monoprint Gelli Plates

D1. Creating and Presenting

D1.1: Students create two-dimensional art using Gelli plates, focusing on lines, patterns, and colour, allowing them to explore personal feelings and ideas.

- *Alignment:* The activity encourages students to express themselves by experimenting with unique prints, using vibrant chalk pastel colours, and layered patterns.

D1.2: Students use principles of design like balance, rhythm, and repetition in their prints.

- *Alignment:* The activity promotes experimentation with symmetrical/asymmetrical arrangements of lines and patterns, fostering a sense of balance.

D1.3: Students use the elements of design (line, shape, texture, colour, and value) to communicate ideas and emotions.

- *Alignment:* Through the pastel transfer and mark-making process, students create art that reflects personal choices and emotional expression.

D1.4: The activity introduces various tools, materials, and techniques (e.g., Gelli plates, brayers, pastels) to solve design challenges and create prints.

- *Alignment:* Students use innovative materials like Gelli plates to experiment with new methods of creating texture and layered prints.
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D2. Reflecting, Responding, and Analyzing

D2.1: Students reflect on their prints and discuss the themes, emotions, and ideas conveyed.

- *Alignment:* The discussion phase allows students to interpret their own and peers' artwork, emphasizing the role of line, pattern, and colour in expressing emotion.

D2.2: Students analyze how design elements and principles are used in their work.

- *Alignment:* The reflection session includes questions about balance, contrast (e.g., light vs. dark paper), and the effectiveness of colour combinations in their prints.

D2.3: The activity explores how marks and symbols in their art convey meaning.

- *Alignment:* Students learn how different patterns and lines communicate ideas visually, making connections to how symbols can carry meaning in broader artistic contexts.
 - D2.4: Students identify their strengths and areas for improvement in creating monoprints.
 - *Alignment:* Through guided prompts and peer sharing, students evaluate their creative process and consider future refinements.
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D3. Exploring Forms and Cultural Contexts

D3.1: Students gain insight into how artists use lines and patterns to reflect cultural traditions or personal expression.

- *Alignment:* The introduction of monoprinting and discussion of its creative applications provide a lens for understanding art forms and their emotional or cultural significance.

D3.2: The activity connects to real-world contexts by highlighting how contemporary artists use innovative materials and techniques.

- *Alignment:* The Gelli plate technique reflects modern approaches to printmaking and the versatility of mixed-media art, linking to broader visual arts industries.
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Fundamental Concepts:

Elements of Design

- **Line:** Students explore various types of lines (e.g., thick, thin, curved, wavy) using tools like combs, brushes, and fingers. These lines create movement, rhythm, and energy in their prints, allowing for emotional and visual experimentation.
 - **Shape:** The use of outlined shapes, drawn with chalk pastels or created through imprinting techniques, provides structure and helps balance the composition within the print.
 - **Texture:** Mark-making tools and the layering of paint on the Gelli plate enable students to create tactile and visual textures, adding depth and interest to their prints.
 - **Colour:** Students experiment with vibrant chalk pastel colours and contrasting paint tones, exploring how colour combinations influence mood and focus within the artwork.
 - **Value:** The use of light and dark tones (e.g., bright chalk pastel colours against darker outlines or black backgrounds) creates contrast and enhances the perception of depth in the prints.
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Principles of Design

- **Balance:** By carefully placing patterns, shapes, and lines, students achieve balance within their compositions, ensuring visual harmony or intentional asymmetry in their designs.