

Packing Tape Sculptures

Grade Levels: 9-12

Objectives:

1. Students will collaborate in groups to create a life size sculpture using packing tape and their choice of mixed media and/or recycled materials
2. Students will view and discuss installation and public art
3. Students will brainstorm ways to make their title/sculpture more conceptual
4. Students will reflect on and evaluate their own work on the basis of concept, creativity, collaboration and craftsmanship

Rationale: The basis of this assignment is for students to study and discuss the idea of public installation art and then create a concept and create their own life size packing tape mixed media sculpture that demonstrates movement.

Essential Concepts: Students will use packing tape and a mixed media material of their choice to create a life size sculpture of a human being in motion that embodies and conceptual idea and appropriate title that enhances this idea.

Standards:

- 1.9 Demonstrate the ability to create 2D and 3D works that show knowledge of unique characteristics of particular media, materials, and tools
- 1.12 Describe and apply procedures to ensure safety and proper maintenance of the workspace, materials, and tools
- * 1.13 Make reasonable choices of 2D and 3D media ,materials, tools, and techniques to achieve desired effects in specific projects
- *3.12 Demonstrate the ability to use representation, abstraction, or symbolism to create 2D and 3D artwork that conveys a personal point of view about issues and ideas
- 4.9 Demonstrate the ability to conceptualize, organize, and complete long-term projects, alone and in group settings
- 4.10 Demonstrate the ability to develop an idea through multiple stages, responding to criticism and self-assessment
- 4.12 Choose and prepare artwork for exhibition, and be able to discuss their choices
- *5.11 Analyze a body of work, or the work of one artist, explaining its meaning and impact on society, symbolism, and visual metaphor

Elements and Principles:

Proportion- students will work to create realistic proportion within their sculpture

Vocabulary:

- ❖ Proportion
- ❖ Street art
- ❖ Installation art
- ❖ Mixed Media
- ❖ Movement

Studio Materials:

- ❖ Clear Packing Tape (At least 6 rolls)
- ❖ A variety of mixed media materials (string lights, tissue paper, paint, wire, string)
- ❖ Scissors/ X-Acto Knife
- ❖ Objects for wrapping (in addition to a human model)

Enrichment Materials:

- Mark Jenkins
 - www.xmarkjenkins.com
 - www.tapesculpture.org

Assessment Materials:

Teacher Grading Rubric-

	AWESOME	REALLY GOOD	NEEDS WORK	NOT SO GOOD
	10 9.5 9	8.5 8	7.5 7	6.5 6 5....
Cooperation	All members of group were available throughout the lesson and worked together with little to no problems.	Most members of the group were available throughout the lesson and worked together with a few problems.	All members of the group were not always available making it difficult for the group to proceed and/or had issues making it difficult to complete the project.	All members of the group were not always available or did not work together well, making it difficult for the group to proceed and resulting in the project not able to be completed.
Craftsmanship	Sculpture is complete with any necessary props and is well-crafted with	Sculpture is complete, but could have been crafted more neatly. Some	Sculpture is complete or partially completed and is rather bumpy	Sculpture is incomplete and/or very messy. Impossible to tell what the model's

	a smooth surface and no visible seams and looks like the model. The sculpture is freestanding and needs no support.	seams are visible or the surface is slightly bumpy. Mostly resembles the model. Sculpture needs minimal support to be displayed.	and not smooth on the surface. Does not really resemble the model. Sculpture needs full support to be displayed.	pose was. Sculpture will not stand/sit with or without support.
Creativity	Gesture/sculpture is unique and well-thought out. Sculpture seems to have a life of its own.	Gesture/sculpture looks good, but could have had more detail/prop additions.	Gesture/sculpture is average with not much detail and/or no props. Does not come to life.	Gesture/sculpture is below average, with seemingly no thought given to its design. May not appear to even be a human model/or tell what gesture is being used.

(30-27): A+.. A.. A- (26-24): B+...B...B- (23-21): C+...C...C- (20-0): D and below

Lesson Schedule:

Day 1

(20-30 Minutes)

- Introduce Project Overview and concept
 - Show and discuss the work of Mark Jennings and other installation art (see teacher support material for discussion overview)
 - Show student examples
 - Give demo of how to wrap a body part with tape and then safely cut tape away from body (20-30 Minutes)
 - Have students break up into groups of about 4 and begin sketching ideas, discussing concepts/titles
 - Decide on what 'job' each person in the group will have (model, wrapper, tape cutter, etc.)
 - When an idea/concept is reached meet briefly with teacher to discuss idea (20-30 Minutes)
 - Begin wrapping first smaller body part of model (10 Minutes)
- Clean up: Store any wrapped pieces in box for each group.

Day 2

(15-20 Minutes)

- Review project guidelines, expectations and objectives
- Give demo on how to tape pieces of sculpture together and then attach them to other pieces, give strategies on best way to wrap so that proper proportions are maintained when taping body parts to one another
- Pass out packing tape sculpture handout for groups to review & fill out (1Hour)
- Students fill out packing tape sculpture hand out
- Teacher circulates room to discuss themes and strategies for individual groups' ideas
- Students continue wrapping their model (10 Minutes)
- Clean up: Store wrapped pieces in box for each group. Collect handout.
- Assign Homework: Begin to bring in materials for mixed media element to sculptures

Day 3

- Check for questions/ review techniques
- Continue wrapping objects
- Discuss importance of project concept & title
- Further discuss & clarify the “creative mixed media element” that must be established & incorporated into the project

Day 4

- Continue wrapping objects
- Circulate to address any technical problems & discuss each group's “creative element” ideas

Day 5

- Finish wrapping object & begin adding in mixed media to develop each sculpture's creative element

Day 6

- Finish assembling sculpture to prepare for display
- Create title & name plaques for sculptures
- Fill out group rubrics & turn in
- Display artwork in Media Center, in the display case, at the public library, or in another public space

Wrap up- Discuss the challenges of creating work at this scale and with these materials. Discuss where/how finished pieces will be displayed. Fill out rubrics.

Summary: This lesson has students discussing the concept of public art and creating their own conceptual human sculptures from unique materials.

Teacher Support Materials

Mark Jenkins Notes:

www.tapesculpture.org

www.xmarkjenkins.com

<http://www.offtherollcontest.com/main/home.aspx> Scotch Packaging Tape Contest

- [American artist](#) (lives in Washington DC) most widely known for the [street installations](#) he creates using [box sealing tape](#).
- Street artist (art in surprising places)
- His work has been featured in various publications including *Time*, *The Washington Post*, *Reuters*, *The Independent* and on the [street art](#) blog [Wooster Collective](#).
- He has shown indoors in galleries in the U.S., Europe, Japan and Brazil and is represented by various galleries including Lazarides Gallery in London.

- Artist Quote: *For me it started in grade school. I figured out a way to cast pencils in tape by wrapping the sticky side out. I was working my way on my hand when my teacher reprimanded me for wasting tape. So it is ironic for me that its becoming popular in schools now too.*

- Storker Project (2005--)
In this ongoing project tape babies are "dropped" in various outdoor environments in different cities as part of a "species propagation movement."
 - To date there have been over 100 babies installed.
- Embed Series (2006--)
In this series, Jenkins dresses his life size tape casts in clothing to create realistic sculptures which he installs in various positions in urban environments—stuck into traffic cones, trash bags, cans, etc.
 - He documents the reaction of the people who pass by them with video. The most watched of these videos features a figure sculpture positioned to create an illusion that it is sticking its head into a wall.

Discussion Questions:

- What is public art/street art?
- How is it different then art that is commissioned or found in museums/galleries?
- Do you think the work of Mark Jenkins is compelling? Why or why not?
- What would you think if you saw a piece by Jenkins on the street?

