

Punk'd Art

“Did I do that?”

(art+science,
art+technology)

Punk'd was an American hidden camera practical joke television series on MTV. Being "Punk'd" refers to having such a prank played on oneself, or more likely to "punk someone." Punk'd art is humorous art that fools the eye. The example to the right is known as assemblage art which is a three dimensional composition of found or made objects. It is surprisingly simple to create your own, too as this lesson plan will teach.

This lesson plan teaches the students the use of new artistic materials such as polyurethane resins and silicone mold making material.

Preparation

Collect pictures of collages and assemblages to use as examples in class. In addition, paper cups from franchise restaurants as well as empty soda cans. You can even use empty water bottles.

Process

There are not too many lesson plans that can provide so much learning and enjoyment for so little expenditure of time and materials. This is positively one of them.

This is a lesson plan about, "things aren't as they seem." The scientific world requires fact and evidence. It requests that the investigator question and probe. This exercise demonstrates our general acceptance of what we see as fact and then makes us laugh.

To create the assemblage on the right we used two types of polyurethane resin. The first was a two-part fast cast resin that set white in color. The second is a clear resin that when fully set is water clear.

Create a Tall Glass of Milk

To make our simulated glass of milk we used a plastic glass that we obtained from a party store. It is inexpensive and safe as it will not shattered as a glass on would. We simply placed a plastic straw in the glass to give it more realism and then mixed a half glass worth of Part A KastEZ resin and equal amounts of part B. We added the A and B to a container big enough to hold the material and mixed until the cloudy liquid cleared.

We then simply pour the mixture into the plastic glass while holding the straw steady. In about four minutes the yellow-tinted yellow turns white and hardens before our eyes. Allow it to set for five more minutes to cool and full set and Viola-a simulated glass of milk that looks so real you'll want to sip on the straw.

Make the Spilled Cup of Coffee

The materials needed for a simulated coffee spill are a paper coffee cup, coffee stirrer, a craft stick for stirring, two 8-ounce cups for mixing the resin, a 6-inch square of wax paper, 2-ounces of KastEZ resin and several drops of brown polyurethane dye. Put down the wax paper. This is where you will place the coffee cup. The wax paper will prevent the resin from sticking so you can pick up the finished piece after the resin sets. Measure out 1-ounce of Part A of KastEZ resin in a clean cup and 1-ounce of Part A into a second cup. Add two to three drops of the brown polyurethane dye (be careful as a little goes a long way) into either the Part A or the Part B cup. It doesn't matter which cup. Mix thoroughly until the color is uniform throughout. Then combine Part A with Part B. Mix for at least 60-seconds.

Pour the mixture into the paper coffee cup. The cup should hold the coffee stirrer. Carefully tip the cup and place it on its side on the wax paper allowing the KastEZ to spill out naturally. Leave the cup in place until the material sets—about 10 minutes.

Create the Spilled Soda Can

The materials needed for a simulated soda can spill are an empty soda can, a craft stick for stirring, two 8-ounce cups for mixing the resin, a 6-inch square of wax paper, 2-ounces of AquaClear resin several drops of brown polyurethane dye. Put down the wax paper. This is where you will place the soda can. The wax paper will prevent the resin from sticking so you can pick.

Soda is fairly translucent, so we will use the water clear casting resin. By adding a few drops of the brown dye you will be able to obtain the look of a realistic soda spill.

Measure out 1-ounce of Part A of AquaClear resin in a clean cup and 1-ounce of Part A into a second cup. Add two to three drops of the brown polyurethane dye (again, be careful as a little goes a long way) into either the Part A or the Part B cup. It doesn't matter which cup. Mix thoroughly until the color is uniform through out. Then combine Part A with Part B. Mix four at least 60-seconds.

Pour the mixture on to the wax paper. Then place the soda can on the surface with the open spout at the lowest point (the 6 O'clock position). To add more realism try to get some of the resin onto the rim of the can next to the opening. Leave the can in place until the resin sets. It should not be sticky.

Create a Spilled Bottle of Water

Using an empty water bottle you can have students create spilled water. Follow the directions to the spilled soda can only do not put in any brown dye. Instead combine the two parts of the AquaClear resin mix for about 1-minute. Pour the mixture into the water bottle (make sure it is perfectly dry) and allow the contents to be poured out of the bottle on to the wax paper. Place the emptied bottle onto the spill and let the resin set before handling. It should not be sticky to the touch.

Making the Donut Mold

To make a donut mold you will need some real donuts, MoldRite25 2-part silicone, a glue gun, foam board, a utility knife to cut the foam board, and tooth picks. To begin cut a six-inch square of foam board and also cut four pieces of 6-inch long by 3-inch strips of board.

Place the donut in the center of the foam board. Stick at least four tooth picks in from the bottom of the foam board into the donut to hold the donut fast. With the hot glue gun secure one 6 x 3-inch strip about one-inch out from the donut. Repeat the same procedure with the other three strips to form a box around the donut. The donut will sit in the box with at least one-inch away from the sides. Make certain to add glue to where the pieces meet so that you have a completely sealed box. Your mold box is complete.

Now measure out enough Part A of MoldRite25 silicone to fill the mold box one-inch higher than the highest point of the mold. Weigh this on a postage or gram scale. Measure 1/10th of Part B using the scale. Combine Part A and B and mix until the color is even. Pour the mixture in a high narrow stream keeping the stream in one spot until the donut is covered by at least one-inch of the silicone. If you do not have enough silicone, not to worry. Mix some more using the same 10:1 mix ratio and continue pouring until you have the proper coverage. The silicone will stick to itself without a seam.



Grade Levels 5-12

Objectives

- Students will discover how fool the eye making realistic sculpture objects from found objects.
- Students will learn how art can quickly evoke emotion. In this case humor.
- Students will explore the creation of a simple mold making and the creative process of designing art to fit within a fixed space.
- Students will view the results of chemical substances and process and understand how they can be harnessed to create art and to communicate ideas and to develop new technology.

Materials

ArtMolds® AquaClear	(33564-1007)
(2) 1-Pint Kits	
ArtMolds MoldRite25	(33568-1006)
(3) 1-Pint Kits	
ArtMolds KastEZ Resin	(33563-1007)
(1) 2-Quart Kit	
Polyurethane Dye—Brown	
Craft Sticks ,	(60433-1002)
1 package	
Foam Core Board	(13201-1006)
Low Temperature Glue Gun	(23606-0000)
Glue Sticks	(23604-1001)
Utility Knife	(57494-4010)

To be Acquired Locally

Mixing containers 1-qt.
Waxed paper
Plastic glasses
Colorful straws
Box of toothpicks
Paper coffee cup & stirrers
Empty soda cans
Paper towels
Paper cups, 8-oz.
6 per each student
Several real donuts

National Standards

Visual Arts Standard 1

Select media, techniques and processes; analyze what makes them effective or not effective in communicating ideas; and reflect upon the effectiveness of their choices.

Science Content Standard

Life Science & Technology

Abilities to distinguish between natural objects and objects made by humans.

Allow the mold box and silicone to sit undisturbed for at least 5-hours. It is best to let it set overnight. By that time the mold will be thoroughly set and can be demolded. Simply pull off the foam board to expose the completed mold and the donut. You must dig out the donut and clean the mold. It must be completely dry before using it.

Cast the Donut

Measure out 3-ounces of Part A of KastEZ resin in a clean cup and 3-ounces of Part A into a second cup. Add three to four drops of the brown polyurethane dye (be careful as a little goes a long way) into either the Part A or the Part B cup. It doesn't matter which cup. Mix thoroughly until the color is uniform through out. Then combine Part A with Part B. Mix four at least 60-seconds.

Pour the mixture into the silicone rubber donut mold. Allow about 10-15 minutes to set before demolding.

Measure out 1/2-ounce of Part A of KastEZ resin in a clean cup and 1/2-ounce of Part A into a second cup. Combine the two parts and mix. Do not add any coloring. Drizzle this mix over the donut. This will create a white frosted glaze for the donut. Let that set at least 15-minutes before handling. You can not use the mold to create additional donuts using the same procedure.

The Assemblage

Students will take their finished pieces and pose them among other objects to add realism. The pieces may stand alone on a table, fixed to a base or they can be displayed in a box with added items.

For example a spilled coffee cup can be displayed next to sugar packets for added realism. ■