

DecoArt Water Marbling Medium
Positive/Negative Silhouette
Elementary 4/5 grades & Middle 6-8 grades



National Visual Arts Standards:

Grades 4,5, 6-8

Creating

1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3

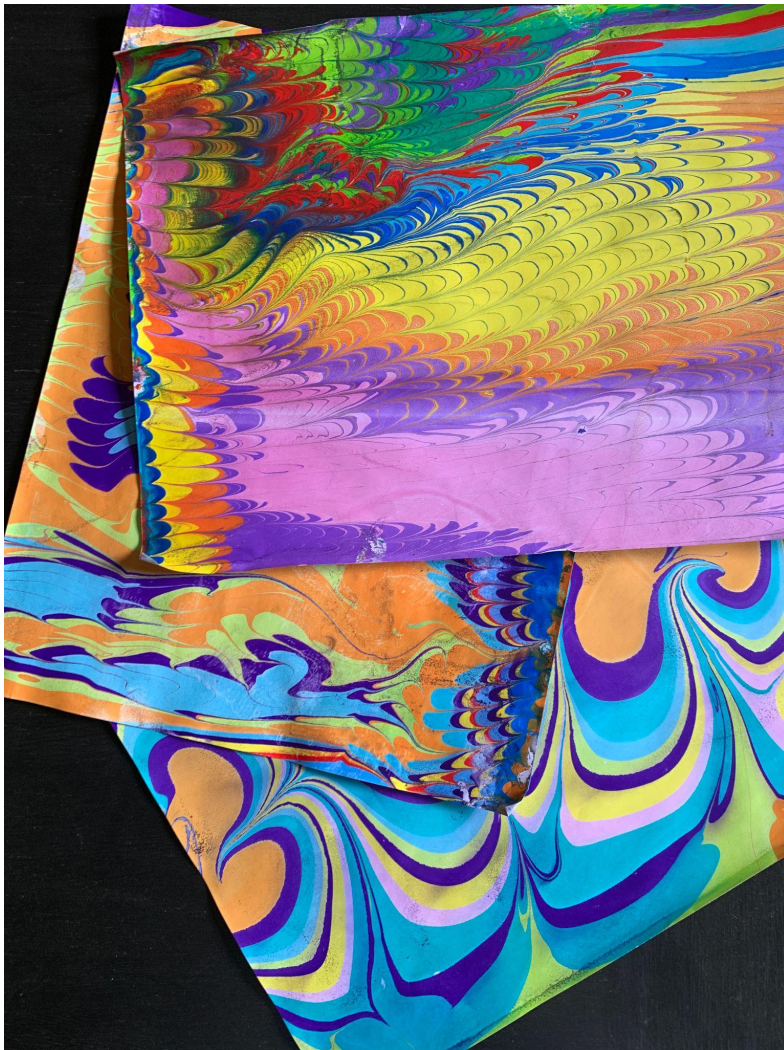
Responding

8.1, 9.1

Objectives

- The students experiment with new media.
- The students use shapes to create a silhouette.
- The students will create an artwork using positive and negative space as the emphasis.

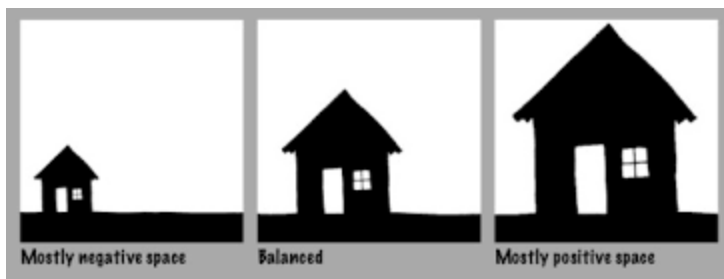
The students will have created several papers using DecoArt's Water Marbling paints and Magic Medium. They will be dry and ready to cut and assemble into an artwork.



Materials:

DecoArt Water Marbling Paint and Magic Medium
Various 9 x 12" marbled papers created from marbling
Scrap white art paper
9 x 12" black construction paper or card stock
6 x 9" black construction paper or card stock
Various examples of silhouettes
Glue
Scissors (older students x-acto knives)

The lesson begins by discussing what positive and negative space is in Art.



In art, positive space refers to the area that contains the main subject or objects of the artwork. The area or background around it is the negative space. When composing their artwork, artists think about both negative and positive space in their compositions. The teacher explains that the students are going to create silhouettes that become both the positive space and negative space in their work. The teacher will instruct the students to be selective about what silhouettes they choose to

create. The silhouettes of some objects will not translate into an interesting artwork. For example, a simple shape like a triangle would be boring. Also, it may be more exciting if students choose a subject they are interested in.

1. Depending on the age level of the students, the teacher might have students draw their own silhouettes if they are older and more experienced art students on a piece of scrap paper. Younger students may choose to use silhouette examples teachers have for them to choose from. The students will cut their silhouettes out.
2. The students will trace their silhouette on a piece of 6 x 9" black paper and cut it out.
3. The students will fold a piece of 9x12" marbled paper in half to make 6 x 9" halves. They will cut them down the creased line to make the 2 halves. The students will trace their silhouette on the marbled paper. They will cut the silhouette out of the marbled paper.
4. Using a 9 x 12" piece of black paper, the students will put one of their 6 x 9" pieces of marbled paper on one half of the black paper. They will put their cut-out black silhouette on top of it in the middle.
5. On the other half of their 9 x 12" black paper with the marbled paper on it, the student will put their cut-out marbled silhouette. Both of their silhouettes will be balanced on the paper across from each other. The black silhouette will appear to be the negative space from the black side and the marbled silhouette will appear to be the negative space from the marbled side.

Extensions: This simple lesson can be extended for older students by having the students try to cut out their marbled images with an X-acto knife without cutting from the edge of the marbled paper. Their silhouettes will truly be the positive

space from the marbled paper and the empty space left behind will be the true negative space to glue on the black background.

Vocabulary:

Silhouette

Positive space

Negative space

Emphasis