

## VIRTUAL CLUB PELICAN

**Project Title:** Abstract Rock Formation Collage

**Theme:** Geology

**Age Range:** 7-12 years

**PROJECT INTRODUCTION:** Artists will create an Abstract Rock Formation Collage inspired by natural geological formations using paper collage technique. You will be creating a work of art that is inspired by rock formations in nature.



### **PROJECT MATERIALS:**

- Pencil
- 1 Piece of White Cardstock (8.5"X 11")
- Several pieces of "Recyclable" Paper like newspaper, magazine pages or ads/coupons that come in the mail, scraps of wrapping paper or origami paper
- Scissors
- Glue Stick

### **PROMPT QUESTIONS:**

1. Have you ever been out in nature and seen natural rock formations? In what ways do you think rock formations are considered nature's art?
2. When you look at rock formations, how do you analyze and study the different rocks you see?
3. How do you think individual rock formations are created? What types of weather and erosion have taken place? How many millions of years do you think it took?

### **DISCUSSION** (discuss or read):

#### **What are rock formations in nature and how are they created?**

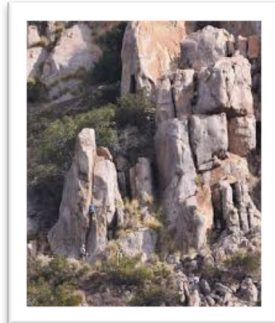
Rock formations are large rocks that stand out from the landscape around them and are arranged or formed in a certain way. They can be created from any of the three types of rock: sedimentary rocks, metamorphic rocks, and igneous rocks. Rocks are constantly changing in what is called the rock cycle. It takes millions of years for rocks to change.

Most rock formations are the result of years of weathering such as heat and pressure, wind, rain and erosion, or volcanic eruptions. They take many different forms such as mountain peaks, canyons, large structures, or small stacks. What nature has done with these tools on the palette of the earth is both breathtaking and mindboggling. Throughout the world, incredible natural rock formations were created slowly over millions of years using the hardest materials.

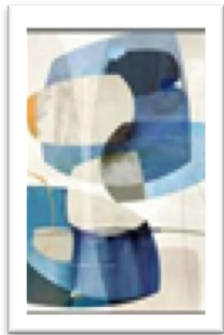
# ARTS EDUCATION PROGRAM

# LESSON PLAN

## Photos of rock formations:



## Examples of rock formation abstract art:



## ART PROJECT KEY TERMS:

**Rock** is a naturally occurring solid. It is made of minerals (which are crystalline), or other mineral-like substances. The Earth's outer solid layer, the lithosphere, is made of rock. That means the Earth's crust is made of rock. The different minerals in the rocks make different kinds of rock.

**Abstract Art** is art that does not attempt to represent an accurate depiction of a visual reality but instead uses shapes, colors, forms and gestural marks to achieve its effect.

**Composition** is the placement or arrangement of the visual elements.

**Balance** is the sense of distribution of perceived visual weights that offset one another.

**Layering** is the action of arranging something in layers.

**Over-lapping** is to extend over so as to cover partly.

## LESSON PLAN

### ART MAKING PROCESS:

#### STEP 1:

To begin your art project, start with your white background paper and decide if you want your rock formation to be horizontal or vertical (Fig.1).

#### STEP 2:

Select a few pieces of recyclable patterned paper and using your scissors cut out different rock shapes and sizes (Fig.2). They can be sharp and jagged shapes or curvy and smooth. (If you want you may use your pencil to draw the shapes before cutting them, but it is not necessary).

#### STEP 3:

Lay your shapes onto the background paper and create a rock formation design. Consider how you layer, stack & overlap the papers in your composition.

#### STEP 4:

Once you've decided on your rock formation design, use the glue stick to secure the different papers into place on your background paper (Fig.3).

#### STEP 5:

Use your pencil to sign your artwork!

### POST PROMPT QUESTIONS (reflect and share):

1. How did you like thinking about balance in your composition? Did you create something that looks gravity-defying? Did you create large masses of rock?
2. If you had to describe the types of erosion that would have created your rock formation in the natural world, what would they be? How long do you think it might have taken?
3. How can your artwork encourage viewers to think about nature and the causes of erosion we know about today? How can we prevent human-induced causes?
4. How did you like using recyclable paper in your art? Have you seen artworks using recycled paper and materials before? (If you look online there are lots of cool ways to use everyday objects in art!)

### ART PROJECT STEP BY STEP EXAMPLE:



FIG. 1

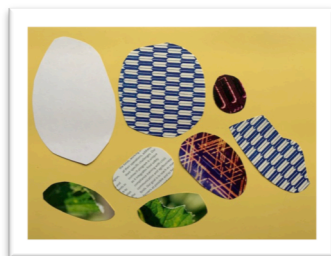


FIG. 2



FIG. 3