stART → KINDERGARTEN

THE ART CENTER

Objective

Students will demonstate the safe and correct usage of scissors to create a two-dimensional piñata out of colored paper.

Materials

- Piñata template
- Rainbow coloring handout
- 20 1x8.5" construction paper strips in various colors
- Scissors
- Glue stick
- Crayons
- Walkthrough video (teacher only)

National/IL Visual Art Standards

VA:Cr2:1:Ka
Through experimentation, build skills in various media and approaches to art making.

Missouri's GLEs of Visual Art

S1.2.A.GK
Use scissors with control.

S2.2.D.GK
Identify and use a pattern by repeating a shape, line, or color.

Pre-Assessment – Rainbow Color & Cut-Out

1. Hand out the crayons and the rainbow coloring sheet provided in your classroom kits. Reserve scissors and glue sticks for now.
2. Task your students with coloring in the rainbow portion of the sheet. The coloring of this project isn't as important as the cutting part, so don't worry if the kids go off the rails with coloring and scribble all over the sheet. Let them have fun!
3. Once the rainbows are colored in (or your class's attention begins to wane, whichever comes first) hand out your scissors and glue sticks. If you think your kids can cut things without explicit instruction right now, go ahead and let them start cutting out the rainbow and clouds out. It'll better preserve the integrity of the pre-assessment by showing me what they know.

   > **NOTE:** *If your kids aren't super familiar with scissors yet, please provide your class with appropriate instruction on the matter. Try to focus on personal safety, proper handling, and making consecutive cuts. It's nice to have clean data for a pre-assessment like this, but safety should always come first.*

4. Once the pieces are cut out, use the glue sticks to attach the clouds to the two "feet" of the rainbow.
5. Collect **at least three** photographs of the colored and glued rainbows and submit them to the Google Form linked at the end of this page.

Pre-Assessment Form

https://forms.gle/VPtD2WZY13zPg6n16

Post-Assessment Form

https://forms.gle/8zm2eps55VrKJT9FA

1. Hand out the piñata template sheets and scissors to your students if you haven't yet. The kids should already have the rainbow construction paper strips, crayons, and glue sticks from their kits.
2. Instruct your students how to appropriately hold scissors.

   - They may already know how to use scissors, but **review it anyway.** Try to focus on **safety and stamina.**
   - The "thumb and two fingers" tactic typically works best for cutting stability. Watch out for kids using scissors with only their thumb and index finger—this will tired them out faster and potentially strain their fingers.
   - Most kids haven't fully developed scissor skills until 6 years of age, so keep in mind that their fingers may get a bit tired during this activity. Feel free to divide this project over multiple days as needed.
   - Don't forget the traditional "don't run with scissors" spiel! A true classic.

3. Using the scissors, model the correct way to cut the fringe-like strips in front of your students, then task them with cutting each line on the paper strips without cutting all the way through them. We want their scissors to find a consistent stopping point at the end of each line.

   - **FOR GIFTED LEARNERS:** Task them with adding one extra cut between each marked segment on the colored strips. This will double the amount of fringe and give the project an even cooler look by the end.
   - **FOR STRUGGLING LEARNERS:** More often than not, kids will struggle with cutting a consistent distance and instead cut the whole segment off into a little rectangle. If that's the case, that's fine—students can glue the individual squares onto the template and still have fun. What we'll be assessing instead is the consistency in the size of the squares!
   - Additionally, have students cut every other line segment for an easier and faster experience.

4. **CHECK FOR UNDERSTANDING:** If you can, get your kids to cut one strip each and show it to you before moving on with the next portion of the project. This will act as a small formative assessment of their cutting skills before proceeding with the assembly of the project. If they're struggling, review the technique and see if you can pinpoint the issues they're having.
5. Once you've determined the kids are consistently cutting the fringe on the provided lines, get out your glue stick! You'll ONLY be gluing the top edge of the strip to the template–not the fringe portion.
6. As shown in the video, the fringe segments are sized to suit the legs and body almost perfectly. You'll work from the bottom of the template to the top, doing one layer of fringe at a time.
7. LEGS: Start with **two whole segments** of fringe, then layer them three times up toward the body. Leave about a quarter inch of space between each additional strip of fringe to get that classic layered look.
8. BODY: Once you get to the body, use **6.5 segments** of the fringe per layer. The ".5" part comes from the smaller end fringe on either side of every strip. Make sure to maintain a quarter inch of space between each glued layer! Vary your colors as you go for a cooler final product.
9. NECK: Only **three segments** of fringe are required here. Add two or three layers up to the chin of the piñata, but don't glue too close to the eye! We'll be coloring that part in with crayons.
10. From here, fill in the remainder of the piñata using the provided crayons. This part is just fun, so let the kids enjoy themselves a bit here. They can even color on the fringe if they're careful not to tear it, but watch out!
11. Collect **at least three** photographs of the glued and colored piñatas and submit them to the Google Form linked at the end of page one (see previous). Provide a few additional details about how your students did overall.

ONCE YOU'VE SUBMITTED BOTH SETS OF REQUIRED PRE- AND POST-ASSESSMENT PHOTOGRAPHS THROUGH OUR FORMS ON PAGE ONE, WE WILL CONTACT YOU VIA EMAIL TO SEND YOU THE LINK TO THE REGIONAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION'S PD COMPLETION FORM SO YOU CAN GET YOUR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT HOURS FOR THIS PROGRAM.