

# Explore Sculpture by Making a Mobile

<< Which Artists? <<

**Theme:**

**Structure & Balance, Colour, Shape**

**Medium:**

**Drawing, Construction Materials (card, wood, wire, string)**

**Artist:**

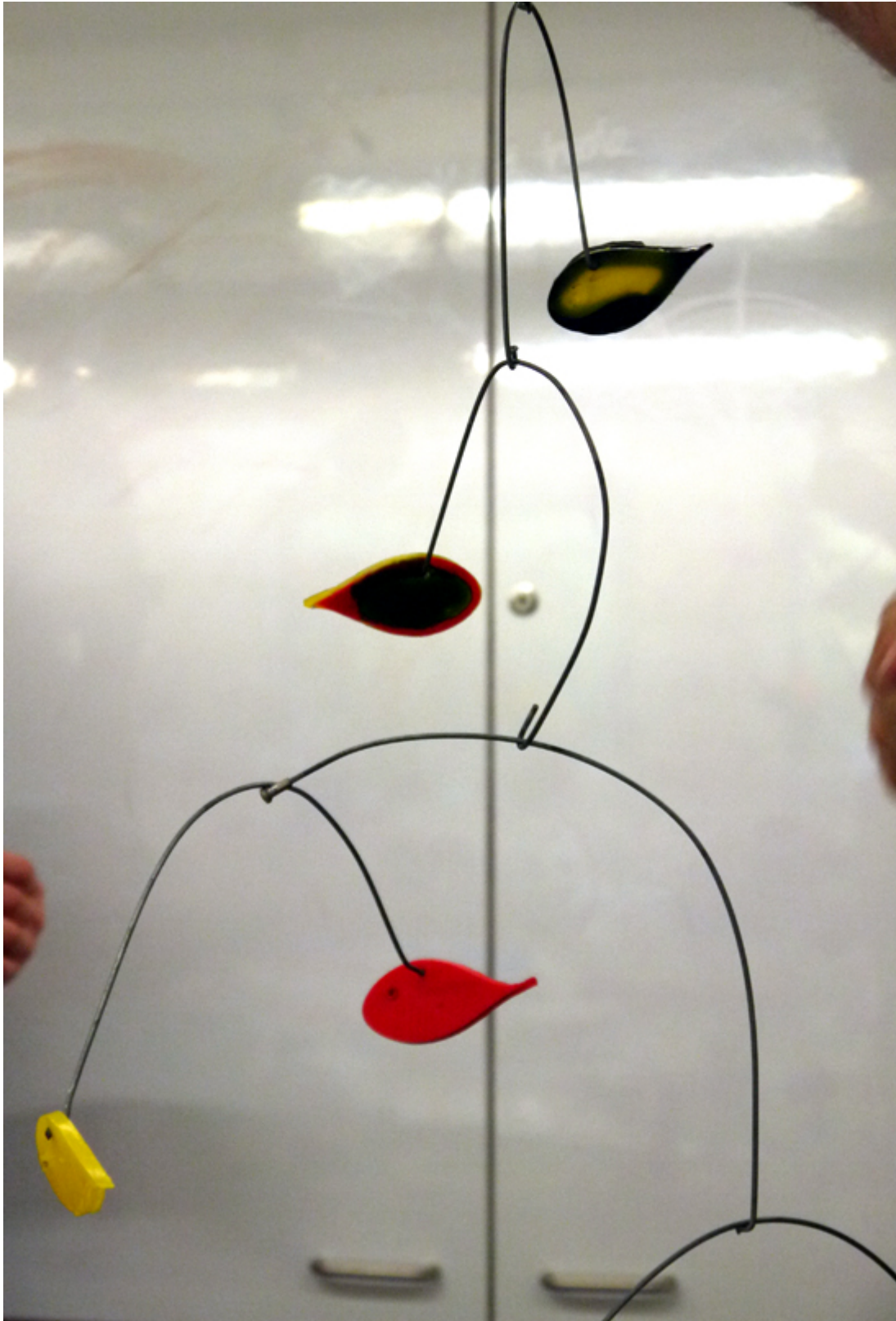
**Alexander Calder**

In this pathway, suitable for ages 9-11, we explore the work of Alexander Calder. Calder created sculptures and mobiles using solid blocks of colour and simple shapes, exploring the relationships between the objects and lines.

This pathway encourages children to be intellectually curious about sculpture, and to develop their oracy skills. Children then use drawing as a way to deepen their looking, before progressing to explore mark making, colour, line and shape before they finally make their own sculpture.

This pathway will take approximately half a term, based upon a weekly art lesson.

If you use this resource in your setting, please tag us on social media: #InspiredBy @accessart (facebook, twitter) @accessart.org.uk (instagram) and share the url. Thank you!

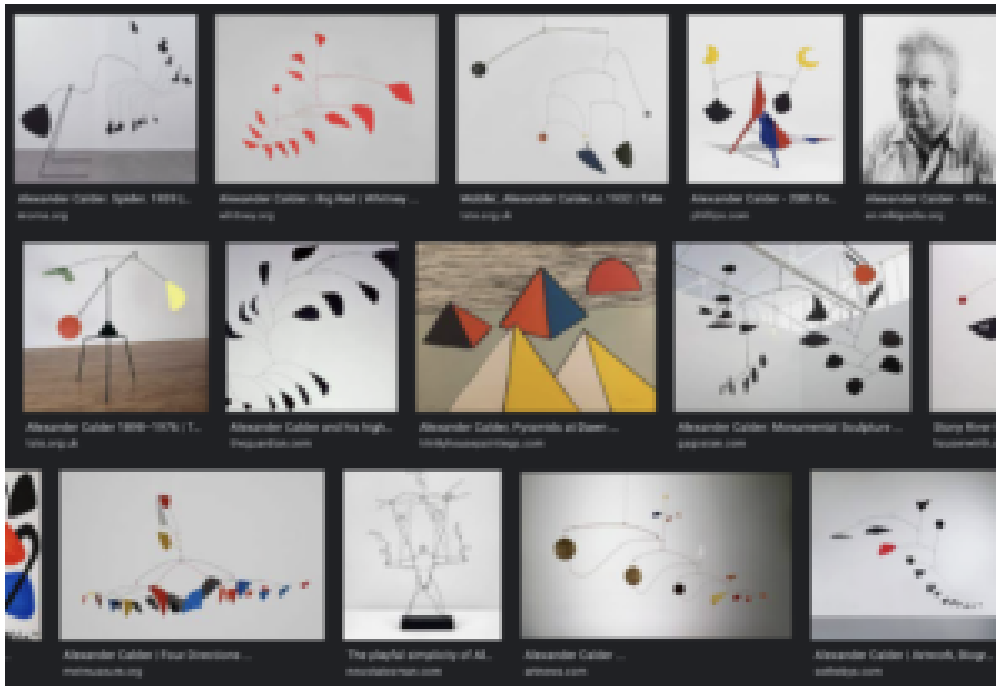


AGES 9-11

# Explore Alexander Calder & Make Mobiles

▪ Familiarise Yourself with Calder's Work

**Alexander Calder: Sculpture & Mobiles**



Explore these links to help introduce the work of Alexander Calder:

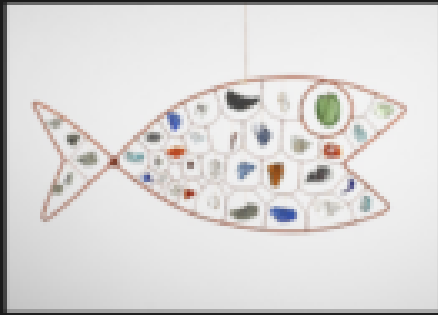
- Tate Website

- Calder Foundation

There is a beautiful film made in 1944 describing Calder's work at <https://calder.org/film/works-of-calder/>

- Talk

**Enable Children to Be Curious &  
Articulate**



Fish, 1942



Clangors, 1942

**Choose one or more images from this page and discuss the work with the pupils.**

**If you need help to enable children to talk about sculpture see the type of questions you might ask here.**

▪ Draw in Sketchbooks

## **Deepen Looking by Drawing – Sketchbook Work**

Watch the film above (we suggest turning the narrated sound off), and stop the film at intervals, inviting your pupils to “Show Me What You Can See” by drawing. You can see the “Show Me What You See” guided process here, adapting it to fit.

▪ Draw / Paint / Cut

**Explore Line, Mark Making and  
Colour on Large Sheets of Paper  
or Card**



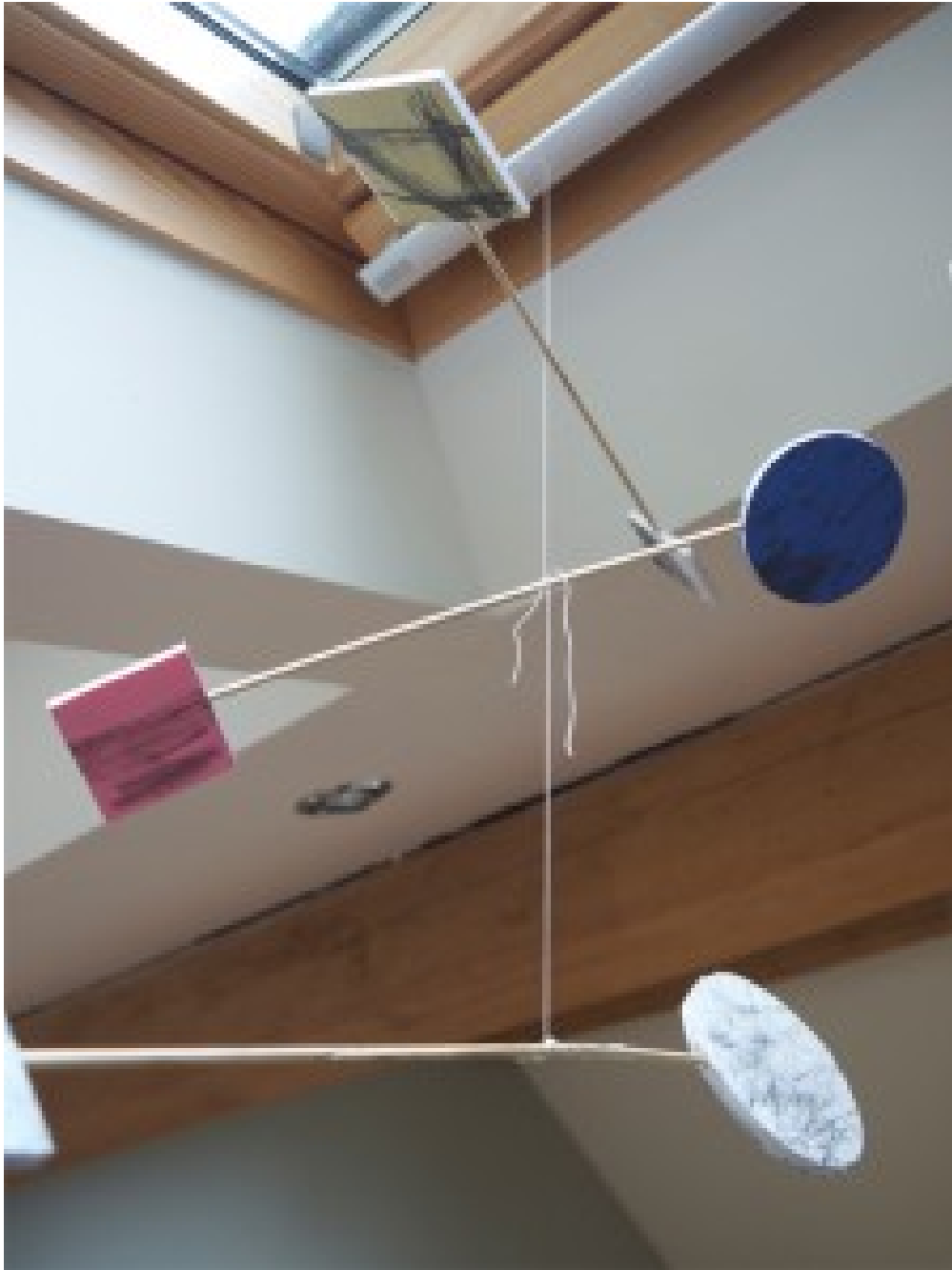


**At this point children begin work on their mobiles.**

**To begin, explore mark making with a variety of medium, making marks on a large sheet of paper, and then adapting the activity on this page... (you could also use paint or coloured card)**

- Make

**Make Your Mobile**



**To make your mobile, continue to follow the activity here.**

▪ Reflect

&

Discuss

**Share and Celebrate the Outcomes**



**Use the resource here to help you run a class “crit” to finish the project.**