

Talking Points: Introduction to Sculpture

A collection of imagery and sources designed to introduce children to different types of sculpture.

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What is Sculpture?

Interactive Cloud Sculpture by Caitlind r.c. Brown & Wayne Garrett

“Interactive Cloud Sculpture” made of 6000 lightbulbs by Canadian artists Caitlind r.c. Brown & Wayne Garrett

This sculpture is made of 6000 lightbulbs which can be switched on and off by the audience. [Find out more about Interactive Cloud Sculpture here.](#)

Questions to Ask Children

Describe what you see. Think about the gallery space as well as the sculpture itself.

How would it feel to be in that space, interacting with the sculpture?

What do you think the artists are trying to say

through the artwork?

Why do you think two sculptors collaborated on this piece?

How does it make you feel? What does it make you think?

Floating Piers by Christo and Jeanne-Claude

Floating Piers by Christo and Jeanne-Claude, Italy, 2016



L'Arc De Triomphe Wrapped by Christo and Jeanne-Claude, Paris, 1961

Christo and Jeanne-Claude are artists who have become known for wrapping large objects/buildings/environments.

Christo started out wrapping objects like chairs and books, interested in how the wrapping changed the meaning. More recently the large projects, which can take years of planning, are often made just for the purpose of enabling us to look at the world in new ways.

Christo says: "We make beautiful things, unbelievably useless, totally unnecessary."

[See more work by Christo, and Christo and Jeanne-Claude here.](#)

Questions to Ask Children

What have the artists done here?

How many people do you think were involved in making this artwork? What jobs did they have to do?

How long do you think this artwork will last? Do you think the artists minded making an artwork which won't last forever?

How do you think the visitors feel? How would you feel if you were there? What would the yellow bouncy path make you want to do?

How do you think the people felt when they returned to the “normal” landscape around them? Would they have been changed by the artwork?

How do you think it looks from above?

What do you think the artists were trying to say through the artwork?

Dev Harlan

“Parmenides I”, Dev Harlan, 2011

Parmenides I is a light sculpture exhibited at Christopher Henry Gallery, New York.

www.devharlan.com/

Questions to Ask Children

What can you see in the video above?

Can you imagine how the artwork is made?

How does it make you feel?

How long do you have to look at the sculpture before it has an affect on you? If you saw a still image of the sculpture would you feel the same way?

Food Sculptures by Nicole Dyer



Food Sculptures by Nicole Dyer

Nicole Dyer makes sculptures inspired by food. See more of their work here "[Talking Points:Nicole Dyer](#)".

Questions to Ask Children

Describe what you see.

How do the sculptures make you feel?

How do you think the artist made the sculptures?

Faith Bebbington



Sculptures by Faith Bebbington

Faith Bebbington is best known for her sustainable practise; her large sculptures utilise lots of waste materials, with her biggest sculpture to date re-using over 2500 deconstructed plastic milk bottles!

[See sculptures by Faith Bebbington and read more about her approach here.](#)

Questions to Ask Children

Describe what you see.

How do the [sculptures](#) make you feel?

What do you think the artist is trying to say through her work?

What other recycled or waste materials could we use to make sculpture?

This Talking Points Is Used In...

Pathway: Playful Making

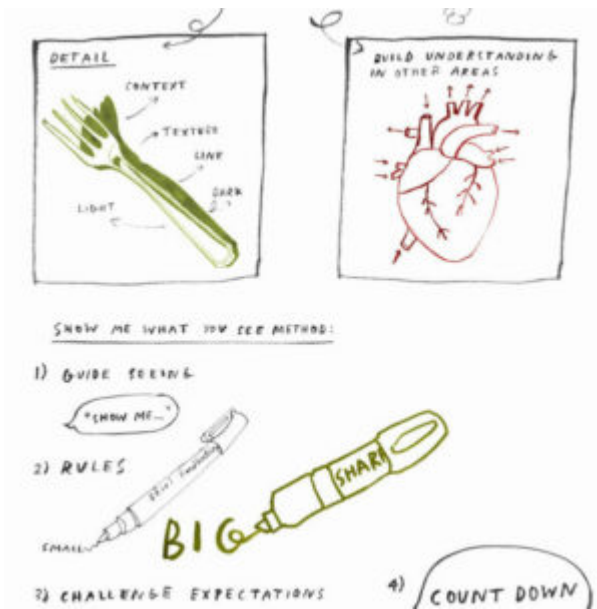


[This resource is features in the 'Playful Making' pathway](#)

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



Show me what you see



What Is Sculpture?

You May Also Like...

Pathway: Playful Making



[Featured in the 'Playful Making' pathway](#)

Pathway: Making Birds



[This is featured in the 'Making Birds'](#)

[pathway](#)

Talking Points: Introduction to Sculpture



Talking Points: Sculpture To Help Us Remember

A collection of imagery and sources designed to stimulate conversation around the idea of sculpture used to help us remember.

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*Cretto di Burri by Italian Sculptor
Alberto Burri*



Alberto Burri – *Cretto di Burri (Crack of Burri)*, 1984–2015, concrete, 1.50 x 350 x 280 m (4.9 x 1,150 x 920 ft), Gibellina, Sicily, Italy, photo: [CC BY-NC-SA 2.0](#) by [Luca Di Ciaccio](#)

The *Cretto di Burri* alias Crack of Burri is a landscape artwork by Italian visual artist, painter, sculptor, and physician [Alberto Burri](#)

Located in Sicily, Italy, the project began in 1984, only to stall in 1989 when funds ran out. It was finally completed 30 years later in 2015.

This piece of land art sculpture, made from cast concrete, commemorated the destruction of the city of Gibellina in 1968 by the Belice earthquake.

The quake destroyed the landscape and left thousands of families homeless.



Alberto Burri – *Cretto di Burri (Crack of Burri)*, 1984–2015, concrete, 1.50 x 350 x 280 m (4.9 x 1,150 x 920 ft), Gibellina, Sicily, Italy, photo: [CC BY-NC-ND 2.0](#) by [Michele Cannone](#)

Alberto Burri was an artist involved in the creation of a new town, 20 km to the west of the destroyed town. [This article](#) describes how the mayor was so impressed with Burri that he invited him to make a piece of art to commemorate the catastrophic event. At first Burri wasn't sure, but after he visited the destroyed area he said:

I almost felt like crying and immediately the idea came to me: here, here I feel that I could do something. I would do this: we compact the rubble that is so much a problem for everyone,

we arm it well, and with the concrete, we make an immense white crack, so that it remains a perennial memory of this event.

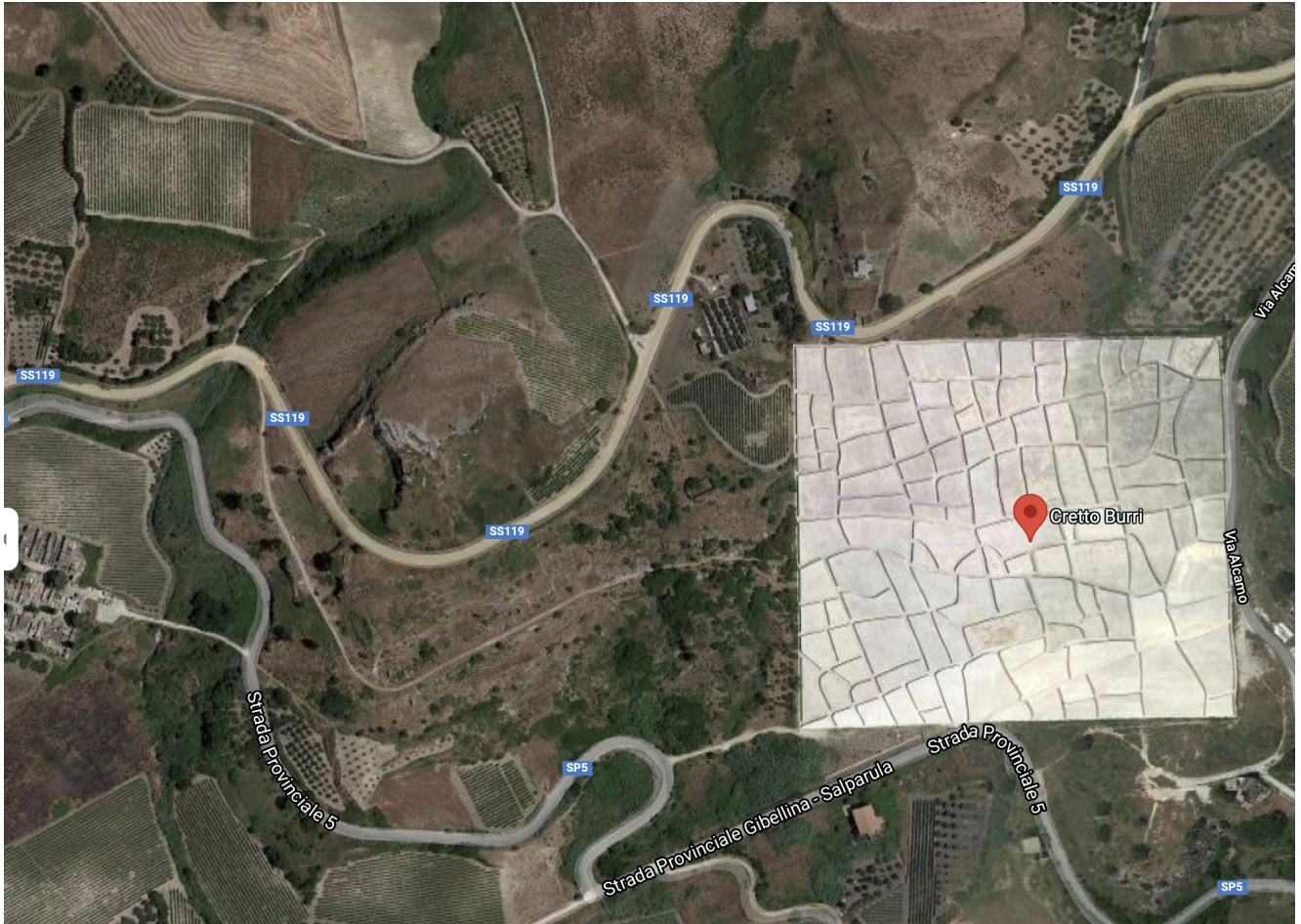
Burri and his workers collected the rubble and redistributed it, casting it into huge cement blocks to recreate the old streets.

“The cracked white concrete of this monument memorializes and conceptualizes the ordeal and suffering of the Belice earthquake, with the slits marking not just the literal streets and corridors of the old town but also the violence done to the land, people, as well as profoundly to the cultural memory of the site.”

<https://publicdelivery.org/cretto-di-burri/>



Alberto Burri – *Cretto di Burri (Crack of Burri)*, 1984–2015, concrete, 1.50 x 350 x 280 m (4.9 x 1,150 x 920 ft), Gibellina, Sicily, Italy, photo: [CC BY-NC-SA 2.0](#) by [Luca Di Ciaccio](#)



Questions to Ask Children

Describe what you see.

Which words would you use to describe the whole piece?

Can you imagine walking through the structure? Flying over it? What would it smell like? Feel like?

What do you think the artist is trying to say with this artwork?

How does it make you feel?

What is the environmental impact of the piece?

Basic and Budget Friendly Art Materials for Primary Schools

To The Thames Barrier And Beyond

Talking Points: Inspired by Birds

A collection of imagery and sources designed to encourage children to consider how artists are inspired by birds.

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Ernst Haeckel

Haeckel, *Kunstformen der Natur*.

Tafel 99 — *Trochilus*.



Trochilidae. — Solibris.

Trochilidae–Kolibris from Kunstformen der Natur (1904) by [Ernst Haeckel](#). Original from Library of Congress. Ernst Haeckel was a was a German zoologist, naturalist, eugenicist, philosopher, physician, professor, marine biologist and artist. [Wiki](#)

Questions to Ask Children

Describe what you see.

Look at the artwork as a whole – which words would you use to describe the whole piece?

Tell me about the details you like.

What do you think the artist is trying to say with this artwork?

How does it make you feel?

Hoang Tien Quyet





Hoang Tien Quyet, Origami artist, Vietnam. Hoang uses wet paper to make his origami creations. See his work at <https://htquyet.origami.vn/tagged/designs>

Questions to Ask Children

What do you think the sculptures by Hoang are made out of ?

How do you think he made them?

How do you think he decides how much detail to include or leave out?

How do they make you feel?

What do you think the artist is trying to say with

this artwork?

John James Audubon

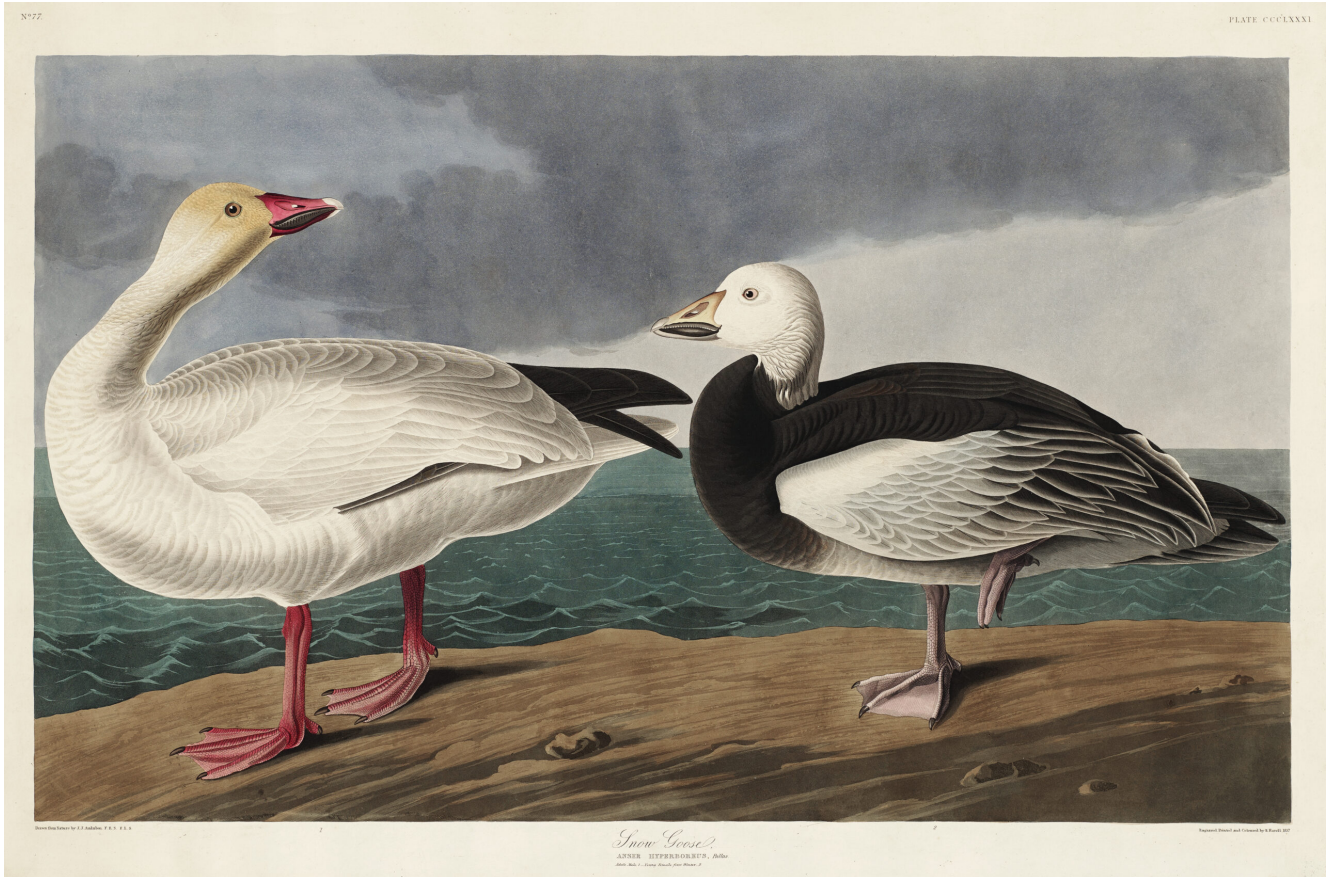
John James Audubon was an American self-trained artist, naturalist, and ornithologist. His combined interests in art and ornithology turned into a plan to make a complete pictorial record of all the bird species of North America. [Wiki](#)



Pied oyster-catcher from Birds of America (1827) by John James Audubon, etched by William Home Lizars. Original from University of Pittsburg.



Fulmar Petrel from Birds of America (1827) by John James Audubon, etched by William Home Lizars. Original from University of Pittsburg.



Snow Goose from Birds of America (1827) by John James Audubon, etched by William Home Lizars. Original from University of Pittsburg.

Questions to Ask Children

Describe what you see.

Look at the artwork as a whole – which words would you use to describe the whole piece?

Tell me about the details you like.

What materials has the artist used?

What do you think the artist is trying to say with this artwork?

Can you describe the nature/personality of the bird? Why do you think that? How has the artist made you think that?

Pejac



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ENGLISH

Birds in Flight Emerge from the Negative Space of Broken Windows

By Jessica Stewart on October 27, 2016



Camouflage by Pejac. Silvestre Santiago, better known as Pejac, is a Spanish painter and street artist. He was born in 1977 in Santander, Cantabria, Spain. He studied Fine Arts in Salamanca and then Barcelona. In 2001, Santiago continued his studies in Italy at the Accademia di Belle Arti di Milano. Today the artist lives in

Santander.

Inspired by the work of Belgium Surrealist [Rene Magritte](#), Pejac plays with the idea of negative space in this installation piece. Explore images of the piece via the [My Modern Met article](#)

Questions to Ask Children

What do you see?

What has the artist done in this piece?

How does this piece of art make you feel?

What do you think the artist is trying to say?

Dusciana Bravura





Dusciana Bravura is an Italian Sculptor and Interior Designer.

Dusciana makes beautiful birds out of beads. [Explore her website](#) to see more of her work.

Questions to Ask Children

What words would you use to describe these sculptures?

Can you imagine how Dusciana makes her work?

How do they make you feel?

What do you think the artist is trying to say?

This Talking Points Is Used In...

Pathway: Making Birds

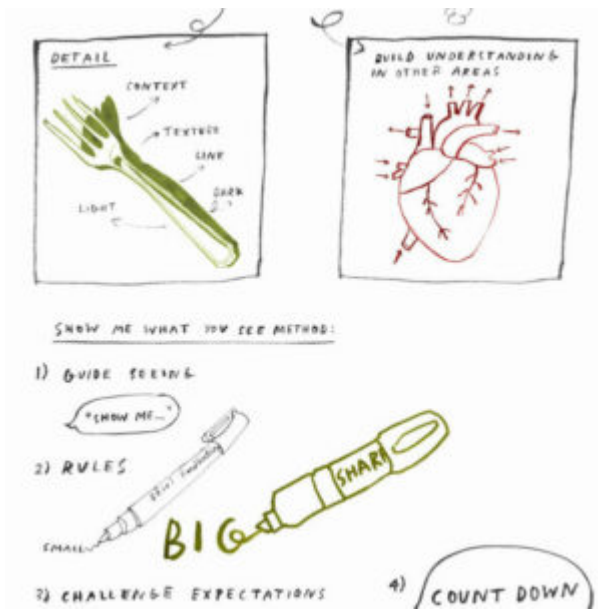


[This is featured in the 'Making Birds' pathway](#)

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



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Workshop Season in Review

Introduction to Charcoal

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Part One**

How To Assess Creativity: Part Two

World War 1 And The Work Of Paul Nash

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Green Thumbs

**Which Artists: Andrew
Amondson**

**Introduction to the AccessArt
2020 Progression Plan**

**An Introduction to the
AccessArt Exemplar
Curriculum Plan**

Which Artists: Tatyana Antoun

What We Like About This Resource...

“The research phase of a creative project can be presented in many different ways, and can even be an art form in itself. Here, Tatyana demonstrates how her sketchbooks became a medium through which she expressed her thoughts, refined her ideas and explored materials. We believe

sketchbooks to be a powerful tool for children to take ownership of their ideas and travel on their own creative journey, without necessarily knowing the destination. Take a look at our [sketchbook journey](#) for more sketchbook inspiration”
– Rachel, AccessArt.

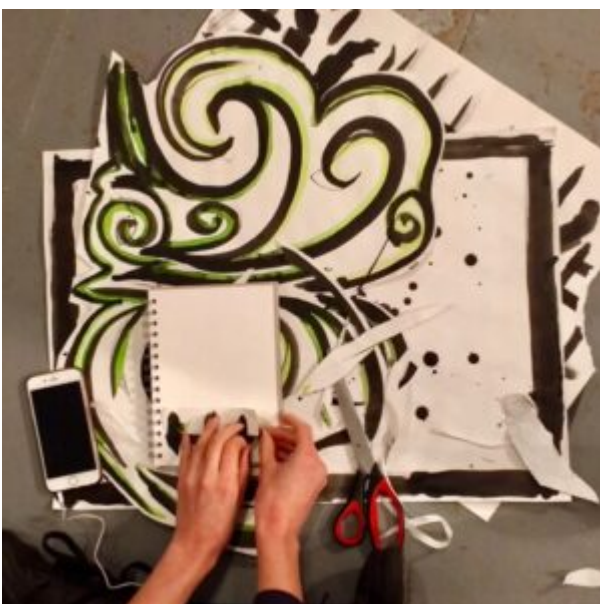
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Sketchbooks and Thinking Skills



Sketchbooks for Designers – an Introduction for Children



Using Sketchbooks to Take Ownership of Ideas

**Which Artists:
Merlin Evans**

**What We Love About
This Resource...**

So often, we hear talk of the distinction between science and art, and no more so when teenagers proceed through their

education and they are encouraged to choose one route or another. In reality, creative thinking helps scientific understanding and a scientific approach can inform and inspire art.

It's so refreshing to read and see Merlin's experience and understand how she works between these two areas – in her words *“mixing subjects, and seeing how they work and intersect is where inventions take place!”*

We also love the way her work embraces the *felt* world of being human, as well as the *known* world. We're sure many young

people will find Merlin's work of interest and reassuring when they are pressured to choose *"art or science"*.

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Drawing as a Way of Understanding

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