

Key Ideas

- Children can visually express ideas and feelings about different subjects in their own individual ways.
- Artists search for new ways of seeing and expressing their ideas and feelings about the world such as *using modern technology, using ordinary materials in new ways* and *looking at subjects imaginatively*.
- Children can develop new ways of seeing by using the same three approaches.

Program Summary

THE BIG A children are planning a surprise birthday party for Don. They have decided to create works of art that show Don's image in new and different ways. Sashya visits computer artist Dave Danioth, who helps her make several pictures of Don by using computer technology. Danioth explains that working with computers is fast and gives him more time to experiment with ideas. Sculptor Faith Ringgold helps Zizi and Amanda make a story quilt about Don, and encourages them to use ordinary materials in new ways. Bryan and Jessica see ways of using make-believe and humor when they work with sculptor Patti Warashina to create original clay sculptures of Don.

Don's animated story, "The Rich Woman," and the delightful original ways that the children express their ideas and feelings in art illustrate how children can successfully explore new ways of seeing.

Key Words

- collage
- mosaic
- sculpture

Featured Artwork

Computer generated portraits of Don; David Danioth; 1986; Mosaic and chalk techniques

The Family; Faith Ringgold; 1978; Mixed media soft sculpture; Approx. H: 40"

Mask Quilt #1: The Women (work in progress); Faith Ringgold; 1986; Acrylic paint on canvas; Approx. H: 66" x W: 48"

Mask Quilt #2: The Men (work in progress); Faith Ringgold; 1986; Acrylic paint on canvas; Approx. H: 66" x W: 48"

"A" Procession; Patti Warashina; 1986; Clay and mixed media; H: 8' x L: 10' x D: 3'; City of Seattle Art in Public Places Collection

Before the Program

Explain that artists are never satisfied with doing things in the "same old way." Ask if the students have seen artwork done in different ways. Encourage them to watch for different ways in which the artists and THE BIG A children see things and create art.

After the Program

Recall the Program

Review the different ways the artists in the program helped THE BIG A children interpret Don in art-work. (For example, they used new technology; they used old materials in new ways; and they used their sense of humor and make-believe.)

Discuss Ideas for Creating Art

Discuss how different ways of seeing could be used by your class to create art. Consider the following approaches:

	Ordinary	Imagine the
New	Materials Used	Subject
<u>Technology</u>	<u>in New Ways</u>	<u>Subject</u>
computer	cloth scraps	close up
typewriter	pipe cleaners	in a dream
copy machine	scrapwood	as a wrestler
camera	cereal boxes	from above
filmmaking	tongue	doing his/her job
	depressors	

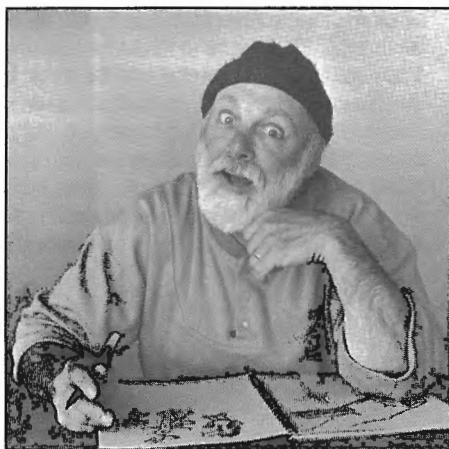
Also discuss possible subjects for the students to interpret such as the principal, a teacher, a politician, a movie star or an animal.

Create Art

Ask the students to select one of the above subjects and one or more of the above approaches to seeing differently. (For example, all the students might decide to interpret the principal and use the same approach. Or some might choose to use cameras, others pipe cleaners, and others imagine the principal as if in a dream.)

Respond to Art

Work with the students to create a display of their work. Discuss the different ways each student has interpreted the same subject. What personality characteristics of the subject have been emphasized? What are the unique ways the medium has been used? What unusual ways have design elements and principles of composition been used?



Photograph: Joseph Freeman