



### **Artist Trading Cards: Quilt Edition**

**Explanation:** Combining artist trading cards (a practice in which artists make multiple small “trading” cards in their unique style/medium to be traded with other artists) with quilt making, students will learn the basics of collage and play with composition as they create quilt blocks with their “trading cards”.

#### **Exhibition Connection:**

Taking inspiration from Quilt National and Broad Spectrum, two textile art shows on display at the museum in Fall 2023, this activity introduces learners to the art of collage and a geometric foundation of quilts: quilt blocks.

#### **Helpful Vocabulary:**

##### Trading Cards

A card that usually has pictures of and information about someone (such as an athlete) and that is part of a set which is collected by exchanging cards with other people.

##### Collage

A piece of art made by sticking various different materials such as photographs and pieces of paper or fabric onto a backing.

##### Quilt Blocks

Fabric units, or components, sewn together to create a quilt. They can be pieced, appliqued or just squares or rectangles of fabric. Alternative wording: The basic unit, usually square and often repeated, from which many quilts are composed. Blocks may be pieced, appliquéd, or solid.

**Museum tour notes:** If possible, point out any quilt blocks used in the exhibitions.

#### **Materials:**

Playing cards

Collage material (books, magazines, wallpaper textures) - for this activity, known as “paper” fabric

Scissors (adult or kid-safe, age dependent)

Glue (glue sticks or bulk poured into containers)

Brushes if using bulk glue

Inspiration from Quilt National and Broad Spectrum

#### **Classroom prep:**

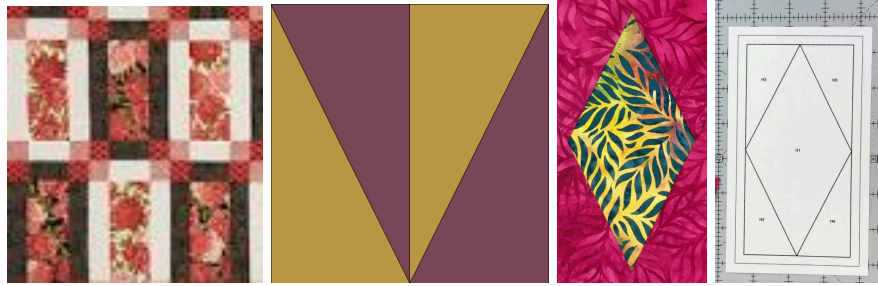
Sort through collage material to ensure appropriate content (i.e. no adbuster for ages under 15). If need be, curate collage material with pre-selected “paper” fabric on tables for student use. Place scissors on the table. If using bulk glue, place containers of glue on tables. Place brushes on the table alongside glue containers.

#### **Clean up:**

Sort and return materials to containers. Clean brushes.

#### **Lesson Plan:**

1. Gather “paper” fabric. Cut/rip additional material to use (make sure you have more than you think you’ll need).
2. Play with composition. Do you love one design? Great! See if there is another arrangement you love just as much. Try rearranging your materials to make 1, 2, 3, different designs.
  - a. Possible styles of rectangular quilt blocks:



- b. Collage tips:
  - i. Don't make one stack of elements too thick
  - ii. Mix and match before you glue things down
3. When you've found a design you love, go ahead and start gluing it down.
4. Add your artist statistics:

Artwork's Title:  
Student Name:  
Age/Grade Level:  
City and State:
5. When you have finished a quilt block, work on your next one!
6. When you have finished multiple blocks, place them next to each other to make your quilt!
  - a. Was there a quilt in the art exhibition that inspired you? Does your quilt look like that quilt?
  - b. Did math play a part in your design? If so, how?