



Ancient Mosaics

Art History Studio
Ms. MacLure

Name:

Objective: To create a mosaic out of recycled tile and paint inspired by mosaics from the Byzantine Empire.
Frameworks Objective(8.10): Students will identify the style of a particular time period and the describe the advantages and limitations of using the concept of style to analyze a particular time period.



Greek and Roman Mosaics With the Greek and Romans beginning with the Bronze Age in the 4th century BC, mosaics began to include figures surrounded by more geometric designs. The figure usually told mythical legends. It wasn't until the Christian Era, following Nero's reign of Rome, mosaics began to take form.

Byzantine Art: Primarily concerns any art that emerged out of Greek speaking remnants of the Roman empire in eastern part of the region. The capital, and where much art was made was Constantinople. Byzantine art emerged from the art of the Roman Empire, which was highly influenced by ancient Greek art. Byzantine art abandoned the accuracy of ancient Roman art emphasized more expression of religious principles or stories. These standards would not be revived until the high Renaissance in Italy in the late 1500's through the 1600's.

Materials: Recycled Tile, Acrylic Paint, Glue.

Overview:

Mosaic - Is the art of using small pieces of tile, glass, wood or paper to create a specific image or design. It is a practice within the realm of interior design or decorative arts that has been around since ancient times. They are primarily made with small, flat pieces spaced evenly on another surface. Mosaics were first discovered in an ancient Mesopotamian temple and was the first known culture to make mosaic art dating back to the 3rd millennium BC. Mosaics were most commonly used in religious buildings and palaces. They ranged from simple to complex.



Demos/Videos

1. Designing your mosaic
2. Piecing your mosaic together with tiles
3. Painting your mosaic

Contact: Questions? Email Ms. Mac at amaclure@valleytech.k12.ma.us

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Use the following steps...

- Look at and research byzantine mosaics, ancient geometric mosaics, and greek/roman mosaics to get inspired. Use the class books as well.
- Begin to sketch your idea in your sketchbook or in this packet. Use symmetry, repetition, and some color.(DEMO)
- Pick out your tile pieces. These pieces are not perfect, but try and find the pieces that will work best for your design. You'll need enough to cover and glue onto the small 4x4" plain tile provided.
- Transfer your drawing to the blank tile.
- Paint your tile pieces based on your sketch.
- Glue tile fragments into place to create your design!

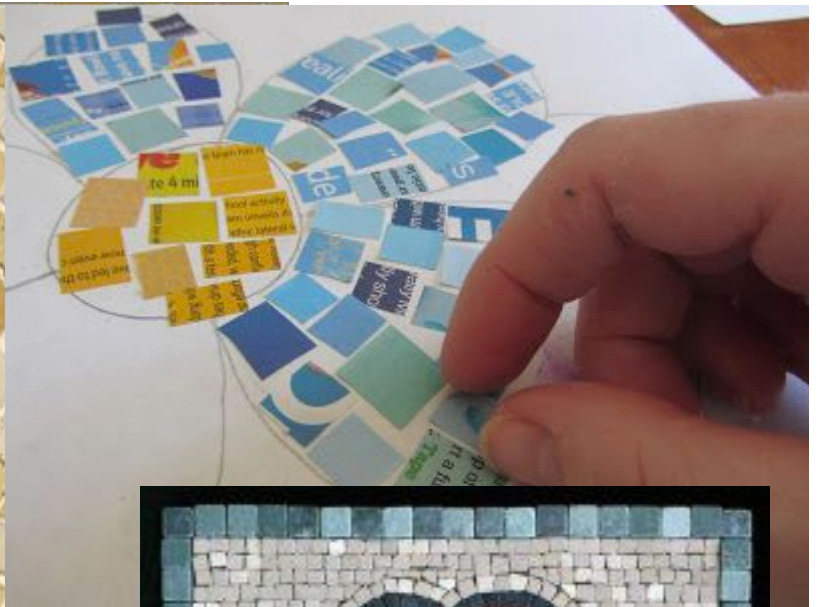
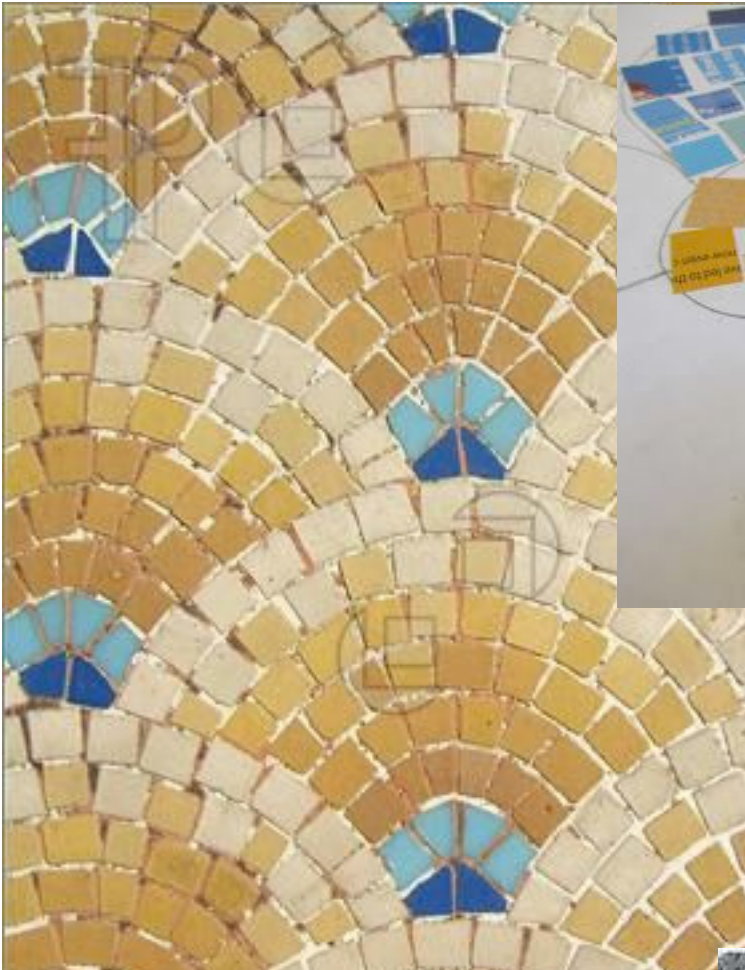
Assessment:

- Effort: **20 points**
- Completed detailed color sketches: **10 pts**
- Created intricate and geometric design: **10 pts**
- Mosaic is arranged neatly and clearly: **10 pts**
- Entire tile is with a design: **10 pts**
- Design includes at least 3 colors. : **10 pts**
- Used published sources to research mosaics and use as inspiration: **10 pts**
- Used care with art materials: **20 pts**



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1. What is a mosaic and where did they come from? **20 pts:**
2. What kinds of spaces were mosaics primarily used (**20pts**)?
3. What cultures used mosaics to portray figures? What did the artists surround the figures with(**20 pts**)?
4. What was the difference between the Greek and Roman art that came before the Byzantine art? What principles changed? **20pts:**
5. In the thumbnail spaces below, sketch 2 different geometric designs based on byzantine mosaic designs. Must include some symmetry, and at least 3 colors (colored pencil) **20 pts.**

