

Wired Up Jewelry

Cross-Curricular - Art and Math
Grades 5-12

Description:

Creating bracelets with Memory Wire makes this project quick and the results a guaranteed success. Simply cut the Memory Wire to the desired length and bend the ends to keep the beads from sliding off. Wrap Beadalon Coloured Copper Wire around any size or shape dowel to create beads or try the Coiling Gizmo to speed up the process. In addition to the wire beads, use any of the beads featured on the materials list.

Creating patterns is a motivating and beautiful way to combine art and math concepts. This is a one-size-fits-all project and the materials listed are supplied in generous classroom pack sizes.

Objectives:

The students will demonstrate knowledge of the functions of jewelry by creating their own pieces for a predetermined purpose.

The students will demonstrate understanding of the principle of pattern by using patterns in their jewelry.

Advanced students will demonstrate their math skills by calculating how long a wire they need to make a particular shape and size bead.

The students will demonstrate their knowledge of the materials used in this project by creating a well-crafted, comfortable piece of jewelry.

Materials:

Stainless Steel Memory Wire Bracelet, 1-Oz. Pkg. (440729-705)

Silver Lined E-Beads 1/2-Lb. Package (248190-705)

Beads for Beginner Classroom Pack (248188-705)

Jumbo Glass Bead Classroom Pack (461102-705)

Coiling Gizmo (248265-705)

Long Nose Serrated Jaws Jewelry Pliers with Cutters (458084-705)

Beadalon Colourcraft Copper Wire, 26-Ga., 30-Yd., 12-Spool Asst. (248268-705)

Popsicle sticks, pencils, and dowels of various diameters



Directions:

1. Show and discuss examples of jewelry from various eras and culture. Determine some of the purposes of jewelry.
2. Show and discuss examples of coiled wire beads.
3. Discuss using pattern in jewelry design.
4. Demonstrate various method of creating wire beads. Start with approximately 12" of wire and wrap it around a dowel, Popsicle stick or any other narrow, long object.
5. Demonstrate cutting and bending one end of the Memory Wire to hold the beads on.
6. Demonstrate putting beads of various types on the Memory Wire and bending the remaining end of the wire to secure them.
7. Have students create their own jewelry for a purpose that they specify.

Suggestions for Assessment:

Have students model their own creations. Have the students in class discuss what they like about each piece and for what types of occasions they could be worn. Have each student write up a self-evaluation, possibly using a rubric.

National Standards:

Content Standard #1: Understanding and applying media, techniques and processes.

Grades 5-8: Students select media, techniques and processes; analyze what makes them effective or not effective in communicating ideas; and reflect upon the effectiveness of their choices.

Grades 9-12: Students apply media, techniques, and processes with sufficient skill, confidence and sensitivity that their intentions are carried out in their works of art.

Content Standard #5: Reflecting upon and assessing the characteristics and merits of their work and the work of others.

Grades 5-8: Students describe and compare a variety of individuals' responses to their own artworks and to artworks from various eras and cultures.

Grades 9-12: Students describe meanings of artworks by analyzing how specific works are created and how they relate to historical and cultural contexts.