

Classroom of Creativity

Phantom Sculpture

Activity Pack

Redd Ekks 'Mollen II,' 1989 (Ceramic)



Phantom Sculpture

Phantom Sculpture is an art show, about sculptures. What is a sculpture? It is a three-dimensional artwork that takes up space, it isn't flat on a page or a screen.

You could reach out and touch a sculpture, but we ask people not to touch our art works, as they are delicate and may break!

Some of the sculptures in our show are sixty years old, and some of them are new. They have been made for the show.

In this booklet you will talk, make, look, feel, move and think about the sculptures from our art show.

Try this one out below!

Talk!

What is the oldest thing in your home?
Have you ever made a sculpture before?
What things can you use to make sculptures
at school and at home?

There are some words that are underlined in this booklet which might be hard to read. Give them a try and ask a teacher or parent if you are not sure what it means.

Looking Closely

Look!

What textures and materials can you find in the artworks in Phantom Sculpture?

Are they:



How have the artworks been placed in the show?

Are they:



Think!

Pick an artwork, why do you think the artist has chosen to display it in a certain way?

Everyday objects sometimes inspire artists. Can you see an artwork that reminds you of something you could find at home?



Rebecca Ackroyd, pieces from the series 'Singed Lids,' 2019
(Steel, epoxy resin, plaster, paraffin wax)

Phoebe Collings-James, 'The Infidel,' 2023
(Ceramic)



Joseph Buckley, 'Crystal Landlord,' 2023
(Plastic, formica, MDF)



Jonathan Baldock, 'Warm Inside xi,' 2021
(Willow, steel, cotton, wool, ceramic, latex)

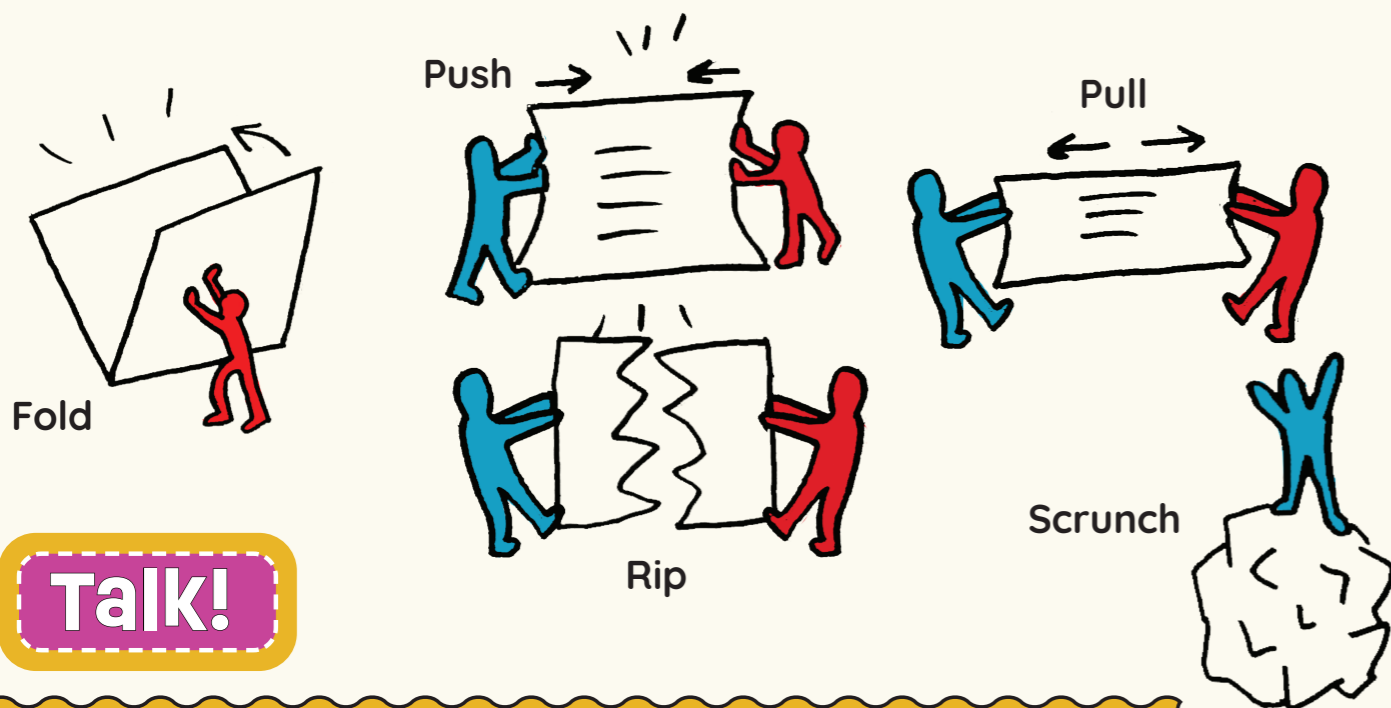
Make, Mould and Move with Paper

Feel!

Take a plain piece of A4 paper and hold it in the palm of your hands. Explore how it moves, turn it in your hand without folding it. Watch how it bends and flexes. Take 2 minutes to manipulate it.

Make!

Now you're going to make something completely new, can you use the following actions to re-form your piece of paper:



Talk!

After 5 minutes of forming, what have you created?
Does it look the same or different to what it did before?
Does it have the same textures?
Does it look like something else?
Which actions did you use the most?
You may want to decorate your piece and hang it up!



Anthony Caro, 'After Emma,' 1977-82 (Steel rusted, blackened and painted red)

Move!

We are now going to take those 5 words and see if we can use them to make movements!

- Push** Can you push a body part such as an arm or leg?
- Pull** Can you use your muscles to pull away?
- Fold** Can you fold your arms or legs? Maybe fold your whole body?
- Scrunch** Can you close everything up as if you are being scrunched?
- Rip** Ripping is moving two parts in different directions, what two body parts can you move in different directions?

Repeat each movement and remember them. Now perform each movement back-to-back so that they are in a sequence.

Congratulations, you have just made a dance about working with paper!

The Space Around Objects



Mona Hatoum, 'Paravent,' 2008 (Black finished steel)

Think!

Pick an object. Look at the space around and in-between an object. This is called Negative space.

Sculptures both take up space and are surrounded by it. The negative space is where we view, look through and walk around the sculptures.

How would you draw this space?

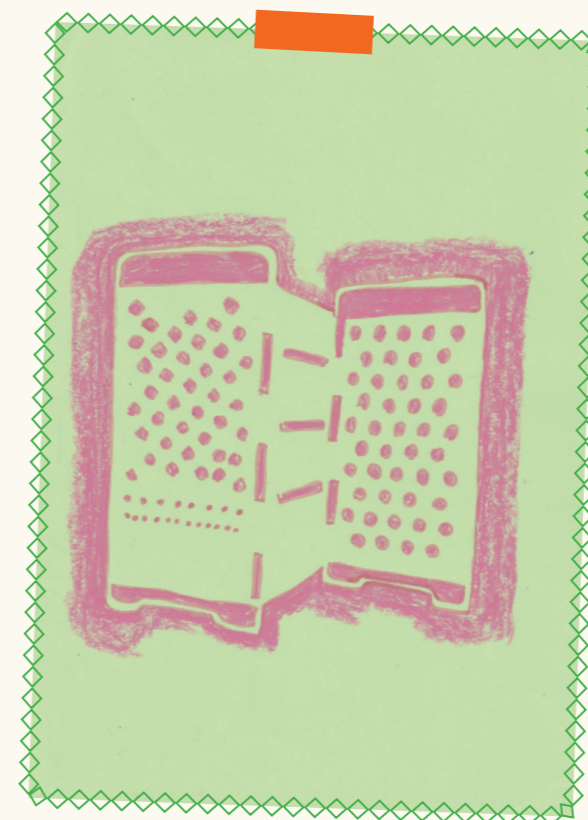
Feel!

You could close your eyes and feel around the object to help you with this. How do you think the space around these sculptures would feel?

Make!

You will need:

Paper
Felt Tips
Crayons



Polly Brant, 'Example Artwork,' 2023

Chose an object or one of the sculptures in this booklet. Instead of drawing the object, can you draw the negative space around it?

Everyday Sculptures



Rachel Whiteread, 'Untitled (Silver Pallet),' 2021 (Lacquered Silver)

Everyday materials can be used by artists to make artwork. Have a go at reusing and recycling materials that usually get thrown away to make your own sculpture.

Make!

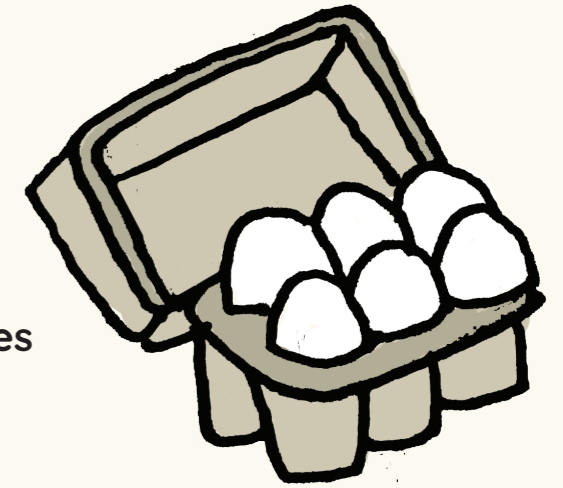
You will need:

- Glue
- Masking tape
- scissors
- Materials from home or school to reuse and recycle

Here are some materials you might want to use:



Cardboard boxes



Egg boxes



Milk cartons



Packaging



Polly Brant, 'Example Artwork,' 2023 (Lacquered Silver)

Think!

What size will you make your sculpture? Will it fit on a table, or will it need to go on the floor?

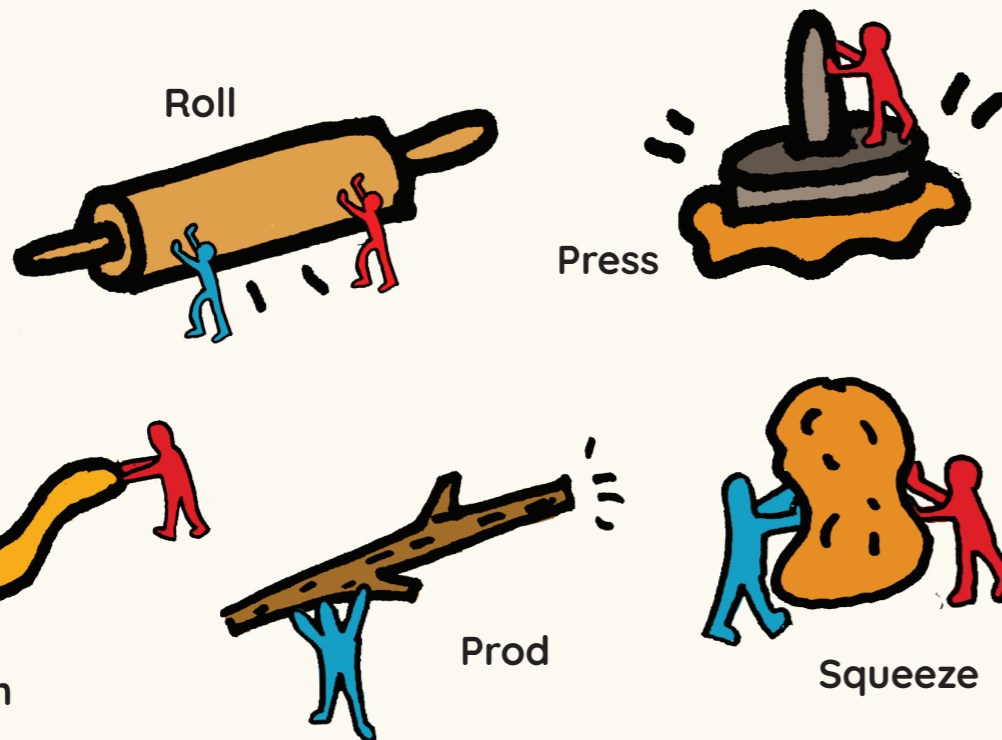
Shadow and Form

Make!

Using the playdoh, think about the words below to make something new!

You will need:

Playdoh
Sticks
Torches



Once you have done this, can you place what you have made on the end of a stick. Dim the lights and shine a light at your shape.

Talk!

What shape shadows appear on the wall?

Do they change as you turn your artwork?
What happens when you move the torch closer or further away?

Move!

Working with a partner, can you use the action words to help them hold an interesting shape with their body?

Roll: Can you help them to do a circular movement?

Press: Can you (carefully) press them into a smaller shape?

Stretch: Can you stretch them so that they are wider than they were before?

Prod: Can you poke or move something? (Hands are great for this action!)

Squeeze: Can you squeeze them into a final form?

Make sure that you both remember these shapes.

Now dim the lights and use the torch to see what shadow each of the shapes make.

Move around the person to make the light focus on different areas and create new shadows. If you have limited space, the person making the shape can move instead.



Olivia Bax, 'Off White,' 2020 (Steel, plastic funnel, chicken wire, paper, UV resistant PVA, plaster, paint, wheels)


The activities in this book have been made by artists Polly Brant and Ascension Dance.


Our teachers, Jessica Roberts, Anna Lee and MaryAnn Galgey have supported us in making this resource accessible and engaging for Reception and Key Stage 1 students, as part of the Classroom of Creativity programme, here at Warwick Arts Centre.

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