

CREATIVE ARTS AND DESIGN

Intermediate Level



Analyzing and Preparing Your Crafts to Show

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Activity 1 – Analyzing Your Work

Project
Outcome:

Critique levels of craftsmanship of craft item produced by oneself or others.

TIPPS Outcomes (By completing this activity you will be able to):

- Use the learned information in new situations, to solve problems, or to change one's behavior
- Identify possible solutions to a problem or situation
- Make the needed effort to carry out a task or a plan



Creating crafts using your own ideas and interests is exciting and enjoyable!!!

Do you critique your work to discover if your craftsmanship is improving from creation to creation?

Have you analyzed your work to determine if you are using the principles and elements of design in a pleasing way?

In this first activity, you will discover a tool that can be used to evaluate your work and to analyze your creations and the works of others.

Analyzing Works of Art/Crafts

The “Analyzing Crafts” form below can be completed when analyzing a craft object and can be used when critiquing your own work or the works of others. A critique is a detailed analysis and assessment of something – an evaluation.

Activities

- Use the form to analyze the pottery in the image to the right.
- Then select a craft you have made and follow the same process.
- Practice this process on several crafts you have made and when viewing other crafts in museums, in public places, or online.

Be sure to make copies of the completed forms and the images you are critiquing to include in your portfolio.



ANALYZING CRAFTS

Selection of Materials

1. What materials were used?

2. Were the materials used appropriate for the project (piece you are analyzing)?
Why or why not?

Analysis of the Elements and Principles of Design

3. What is the distinctive feature(s) used in this piece (choose from line, color, shape or texture)?

4. What types of shapes are used in this piece (list specific geometric shapes)?

5. Is there repetition in the piece? If so, where?

6. What is the center of interest (focal point) in the work?

7. What is your perception of the following and how it is used in the piece:

(Check your answer)	Excellent	Good	Needs Improvement	Explain your Answer
Balance				
Proportion				

8. Describe the color(s) of the piece:

List below	Analysis of Use of Color
Hue(s) [color name]	Use of color is (check all that apply): ☐ appropriate ☐ dynamic ☐ soothing ☐ adding interest to the piece
Value [tint/shade]	Value and intensity are (check all that apply): ☐ appropriate ☐ contrasting to add interest ☐ pleasing to the eye ☐ not used enough to add a pleasing look
Intensity [bright/dull]	

Quality of Workmanship

(Check your answer)	Excellent	Good	Needs Improvement	Explain your answer:
Neatness				
Good use of techniques				

	Overall aesthetics				
Interpretation – What do you think the artist is trying to say with the piece (what is the story it tells)? Is it traditional or contemporary? How does it make you feel?					

Activity 2 – Getting Your Work Ready to Show

Outcome:

Analyze, select and curate artifacts and crafts for presentation.

TIPPS Outcomes (By completing this activity you will be able to):

- Use the learned information in new situations, to solve problems, or to change one's behavior
- Identify possible solutions to a problem or situation
- Make the needed effort to carry out a task or a plan



Have you ever thought about showing some of your work as part of a county/regional fair entry or competition or providing your work for viewing at a local library or public facility?

In this activity, you will discover tools that can be used to analyze your creations and prepare them to show.

Why should you enter your crafts in a competition?

- It builds your confidence.
- It helps you develop your skills.
- You can develop a better understanding of the principles and elements of design.
- It helps you gain recognition for your talent.
- It is fun and exciting.



General Guidelines to Follow When Selecting Crafts to Show

- Follow the guidelines and deadlines for the specific contest (if entering a contest).
- Allow sufficient time to complete forms, evaluate your work and

- Choose your best work (use the form in the previous exercise, “Analyzing Crafts,” to determine your best work).
- Make sure your craft is clean (free of stray strings, visible glue, dust, etc.).
- Determine if you need a pedestal, easel or other item on which to display your work.
- Complete forms and/or tags as part of the entry process for the contest.
- If you win, enjoy the experience and be a gracious winner.
- If you don’t win, be a good sport, learn from the process, and practice your technique for the next time.
- Keep records of what you have entered and if you won ribbons, money, etc.
- Take a picture of what you enter and add it to your portfolio.

Source: samanthasbell.com/art-contests-for-kids

Example of Score Card Used to Evaluate Work

When entering your art/craft in a competition, it will be evaluated using basic judging criteria. Below you will find an example of a scorecard that is typically used for arts and crafts competitions.

Note: Items on score cards may vary. By reviewing this related to an item you are considering entering in a contest, you can better decide which craft(s) is best to enter.

Judging Criteria	Score 1 -10 (10 being excellent)
Project Knowledge	
• Use of design elements (line, color, texture, space, shape, form)	
• Use of principles of design (balance, variety, emphasis, rhythm, repetition, proportion, pattern, unity)	
• Craftsmanship in use of media (materials) and tools	
• Creativity (unique, distinctive, shows individual style)	
Entry Presentation	

• Neat appearance	
• Follows entry requirements	
FOCUS: Explanation of Project Entry (if part of the entry process)	
• Explanation of theme/idea creation and goal of entry	
• Ability to explain decisions made in process of creating object	
• Explanation of skills learned and plans for continued study	
TOTAL SCORE	
COMMENTS	

Source: University of Illinois Extension

Creating a Concept Statement

As part of an entry for a contest or if you want to exhibit your work in a public location, you may need what is called a concept statement. This gives the viewer a better idea of your work. The concept statement should be no more than 200 words. It includes the following sections and answers the questions in each section.

- **Overview, concepts and ideas:**
 - How did your theme come about?
 - What are the concepts, issues or ideas you have explored, and how are they linked in your work?
 - What experiences have contributed to the making of this work?
- **Selection of works:**
 - What materials and techniques have you used and why did you choose these?
 - Do the materials have an impact on the meaning of the work?
 - How do you justify your selection of the work chosen?

- **Viewer relationships:**

- How does the way the work is displayed, hung or otherwise presented contribute to how it communicates with the viewer?
- How did you consider the arrangement of the works within the space that you have available?
- Do you have an overall vision for presenting this body of work?

Source: sites.google.com/a/hbuhsd.edu/ib-art/studio-work-and-iwb-assessment

Example of Concept Statement

My art focuses on contrast in the elements of design. I wanted to paint something that was beautiful, but also interesting. When I walk through the woods on a bright, sunny fall day, there is so much beauty and contrast with the sun shining through the golden leaves of the trees. This was my inspiration. My piece, which I call Flying Colors, uses a resist printing technique where I used leaves and fabric paint to create images of falling leaves. This was created on a tote bag. I explored using a variety of vibrant colors as well as different shapes of leaves for interest. To display this piece for the greatest effect, I would hang this on a jewelry T-holder (not shown in picture). My goal was to make viewers feel that they are walking through a forest and enjoying a beautiful fall day.



Congratulations!

You have completed the Intermediate Project Area Guide – Analyzing and Preparing Your Crafts to Show.

By completing this project book, you have learned to analyze and prepare your arts and crafts works to exhibit in shows or enter in competitions.

Continue to seek opportunities to apply what you have learned to your project work so far and learn new things along the way. Make sure to upload any images and activity sheets you completed to your digital 4-H portfolio.

For more activities in the Creative Arts and Design project, visit 4h.tennessee.edu/creative-arts-and-design.



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