

REYNOLDA

Classroom Activity: Create a Relief Sculpture

Use cardboard to create a relief sculpture similar to the assemblage work of [Louise Nevelson](#). Consider **line**, **shape** and **texture** as well as **variety** and **repetition**.



INSPIRATION

Reynolda House has in its collection a sculpture by the artist Louise Nevelson. Rather than a wood or mixed-media assemblage like she more typically made, [Full Moon](#) is a multiple made of cast polyester resin framed in wood. To create the piece, polyester resin was poured into a mold and allowed to harden. Reynolda House's *Full Moon* is part of an edition of 125 sculptures.

MATERIALS

- Clean corrugated cardboard cut to 10" x 10", for base
- Clean corrugated cardboard scraps to create shapes
- Wood glue
- Scissors
- Acrylic paint in black, white or gold
- Brush for paint

For inspiration of how a curator might put together works of art that relate to the same big idea, see our [Online Galleries](#), like this one about [Animals in Art and Architecture](#).

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PROCESS

1. Cut scrap cardboard into various shapes. Layer pieces to create depth. Remove the top layer of cardboard to create texture. Think about creating positive and negative shapes.
2. Arrange the shapes into an interesting composition with depth.
3. Use wood glue to glue the cardboard together. Spread the glue thinly on each piece. (Note: I recommend starting from the top of a pile, gluing one piece at a time then working down.)
4. Paint a thin layer of paint onto the cardboard, covering all pieces and sides.

Note for classroom: Can be done in 50-60 minutes. Spend 25 minutes cutting and arranging shapes, then about 10-15 minutes gluing.