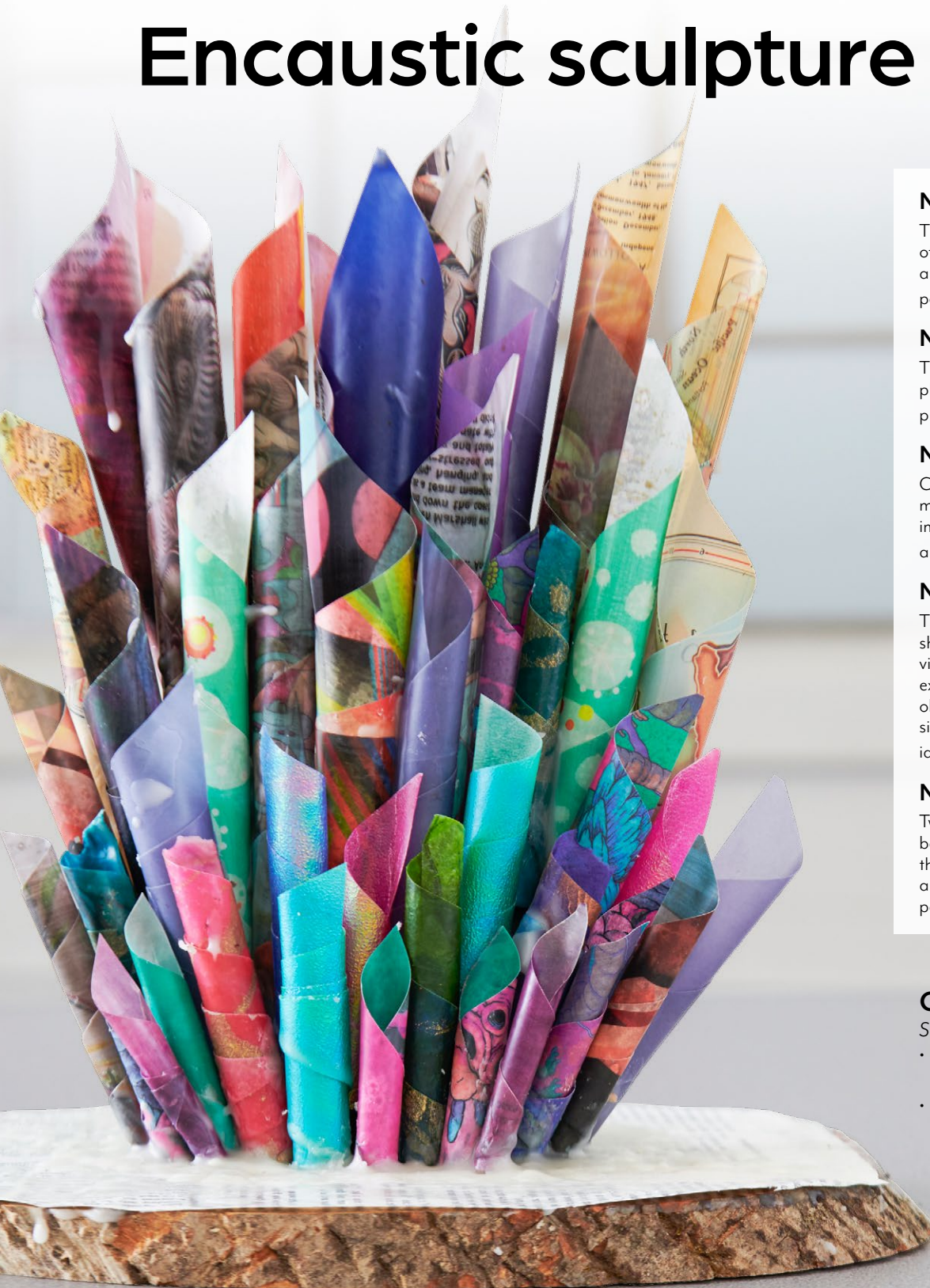




Encaustic sculpture



NJ 1.3.5.D.4

The characteristics and physical properties of the various materials available for use in art-making present infinite possibilities for potential application.

NJ 1.3.8.D.1

The creation of art is driven by the principles of balance, harmony, unity, emphasis, proportion, and rhythm/movement.

NJ 1.3.12.D.2

Culturally and historically diverse art media, art mediums, techniques, and styles impact originality and interpretation of the artistic statement.

NJ 1.3.12.D.3

The artist's understanding of the relationships among art media, methodology, and visual statement allows the artist to use expressionism, abstractionism (non-objective art), realism/naturalism, impressionism, and other genre styles to convey ideas to an audience.

NJ 1.3.12.D.5

Two- and three-dimensional artworks can be rendered culturally specific by using the tools, techniques, styles, materials, and methodologies that are germane to a particular cultural style.

Objectives

Students will be able to...

- Explore new materials and encaustic wax as a medium for sculpture
- Create a unique sculpture using natural materials, such as beeswax, wood, paper, cloth, etc.

Introduction

Encaustic is a Greek word meaning “to heat or burn in” (enkaustikos). Heat is used throughout the process, from melting the beeswax to fusing the layers of wax. The medium is melted and applied with a brush or any tool the artist chooses. Beeswax is extremely versatile. Pigmented color can be added and used to paint with. Or it can be used in 3D works of art, such as sculptures, utilizing the wax to mold and bind the sculptural elements to create the final product.

1

Turn the griddle on. Temperature should never exceed 180 degrees. Use the flat top grill thermometer to gauge the temperature, NOT the dial on the griddle. Melt some medium pellets on the griddle, or melt them in a tin or small ceramic bowl.



2

Lay paper onto the griddle, and coat paper with the medium using a paintbrush.



3

Using a tweezers, pick up the paper by the corner and hold in the air to dry for approximately 20 seconds, allowing any excess beeswax to drip back onto the griddle. Use a variety of papers to make your sculpture more interesting.



Once dry, lay waxed paper on a piece of parchment paper.



4

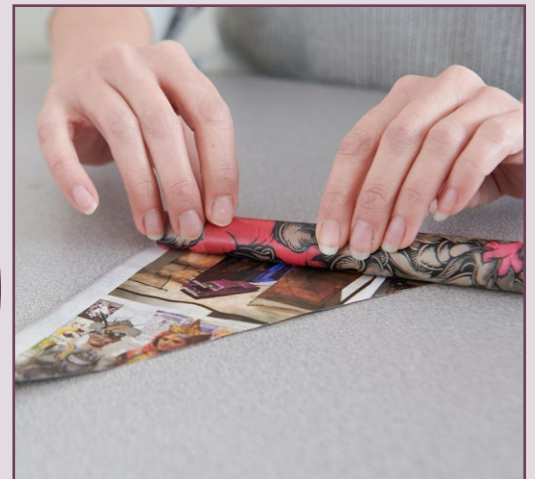
After you have a stack of waxed paper, pick your base (driftwood, small boxes, wood, etc).

Working on parchment paper, select a piece of paper and cut it into triangles, ranging in size. These can be adjusted later according to the design.



5

Beginning at one corner, roll until you have a spherical tower shape.



**USE
CAUTION**

*Wax is hot –
wearing rubber gloves
is suggested.*



6

Using a paintbrush, brush on some melted wax to the edge to seal it closed. You may have to add some wax to the outside to make sure it is sealed completely.

7

Take two pieces and join them together, dripping wax to connect the two. Flip it over and do the same thing on the other side.

8

Continue rolling triangles to make spherical towers. Make different sizes and experiment with different shapes. Continue joining the spheres, using the melted wax.



9

Depending on the base, you can paint it, leave it natural, glue down paper, etc.

10

Add a puddle of melted medium onto the base where you want your sculpture to attach. Press sculpture into the puddle of melted medium. Add more wax around the base to secure the sculpture.



11

To clean griddle, use a small handful of soy wax and wipe griddle until clean. Turn off griddle.



Materials List

- Materials Kit for Encaustic Sculpture (9742786)
- Encaustic medium/beeswax (9733593)
- Encaustic heated pallet (9738246) or Pancake griddle (WA33970)
- Various paint brushes with synthetic fibers (9724778, 9724780)
- Various bases
 - Small boxes (9722053)
 - Wood (9738462, 9738461, 9742265, 9742266)
 - Driftwood
- Various papers (from old books, dictionaries, old drawings, handmade paper)
- Parchment paper (WA32553)
- Small tins or ceramic bowls (9740643)
- Scissors (9729183)
- Tweezers (5400247)
- Enkaustikos Slick wax for cleanup (9740648, 9740649)

Extras

- Vaseline (to remove wax from your hands)
- Extension cord (if necessary)
- Flat top grill thermometer
- Rubber gloves (WA32309)

Resources

<http://www.eainm.com/what-is-encaustic/>