



Developed with Cheryl Scott

Volume 59 | Gr. 3–6

Time: 3–4 class periods

De-bugs



National Core Arts Standards

VA:Cr3.1.3a

Elaborate visual information by adding details in an artwork to enhance emerging meaning.

VA:Re.7.1.3a

Speculate about processes an artist uses to create a work of art.

VA:Cr2.1.6a

Demonstrate openness in trying new ideas, materials, methods, and approaches in making works of art and design.

Objectives

Students will...

- Create a fun, colorful bug using papier-mâché, wire, beading, clay, and paint
- Gain experience using color tones, contrasting colors, texture, and variety
- Understand the basic anatomy of an insect

Options

- For a group display, hang “de-bugs” over a bright tissue flower arrangement.
- If tissue paper is not colorfast, use similar colors so that the colors don’t become muddy.
- For a stronger body, use kraft paper to papier-mâché.
- Use paint instead of tissue paper.
- Use long “hot dog” balloons for different bug shapes.
- Wrap wings and legs with embroidery thread or thin yarn.
- Glossy Mod Podge® can be used instead of glue and water to enhance the shiny, crunchy bug appearance.

Preparations

Based on time limits, these can either be done by the teacher or students.

1. Mix together a large amount of equal parts water and glue. Pour into paint cups for students.
2. Tear tissue paper into approximately 3" sections. These do not need to be square — various sizes and shapes create interesting textures. Be sure to tear, NOT cut the pieces.
3. Cut the Artstraws™ into 8" lengths.
4. Separate the tissue paper into warm colors and cool colors for your students to choose from. They will choose two colors of the same tone.
5. Blow up a regular-sized balloon to a small size (bigger than a grapefruit, smaller than a cantaloupe) and knot the end.



Step 1

- Pick a balloon and select two warm or two cool colors of tissue paper.
- Papier-mâché the balloon with tissue paper.
- Use a paintbrush to apply glue to a small area on the balloon, apply tissue paper, and then paint glue over the tissue paper.
- Repeat this step until the balloon is covered.
- Multiple layers (approximately 20) are needed to make the piece strong enough. Let dry.

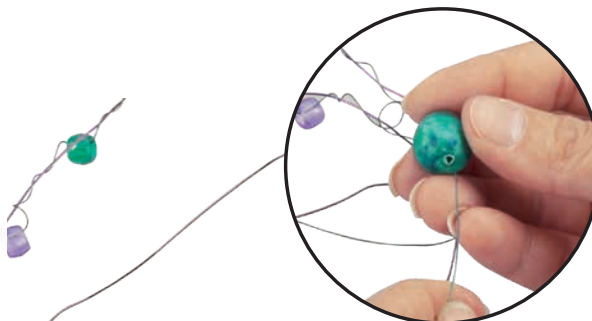
Step 2

- Use Crayola® Model Magic® to form a head, stinger, and beads.
- Paint the head, stinger, and beads with watercolors. If you used cool colors for the body, use warm colors on the head, stinger and beads, and vice versa.
- Clay items will need 24 hours to dry.



Step 3

- Bend a 24" piece of heavy-gauge wire into a figure eight shape to form wings.
- Select the clay beads you made in step 2 and two colors of pony beads that match your "de-bug."
- Anchor a piece of thin-gauge wire to the "X" of the figure eight by twisting the thin-gauge wire around it. Place a bead on the wire. Pinch the bead with your thumb and forefinger, and twist the thin wire so it secures the bead.
- Continue weaving the wire in a zigzag pattern across each side of the figure eight. To finish, secure the end of the thin wire at the "X."
- Repeat for a second set of wings.



Step 4

Take a piece of heavy-gauge wire and wrap the ends around the "X," to create a loop for hanging.



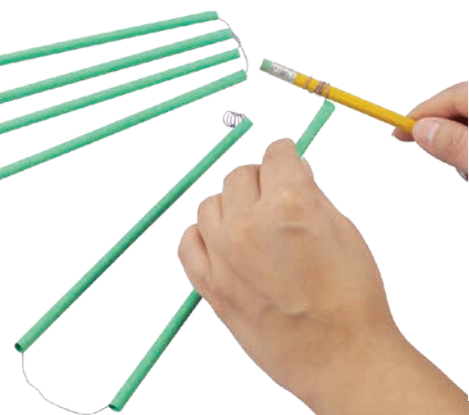
Step 5

- Use a hole punch to punch dots from colored paper.
- Glue the dots to "de-bug" body along the belly or in a pattern across the back or sides.



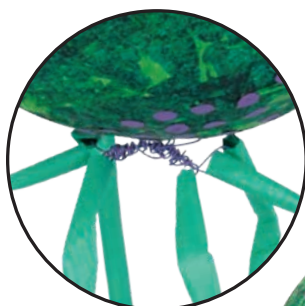
Step 6

- Attach "de-bug's" head and stinger to opposite ends of the body with hot glue.
- Attach wings at the "X" with hot glue on the top of the body. Glue extra beads over the hot glue at the wing "X" joint to cover the glue glob.



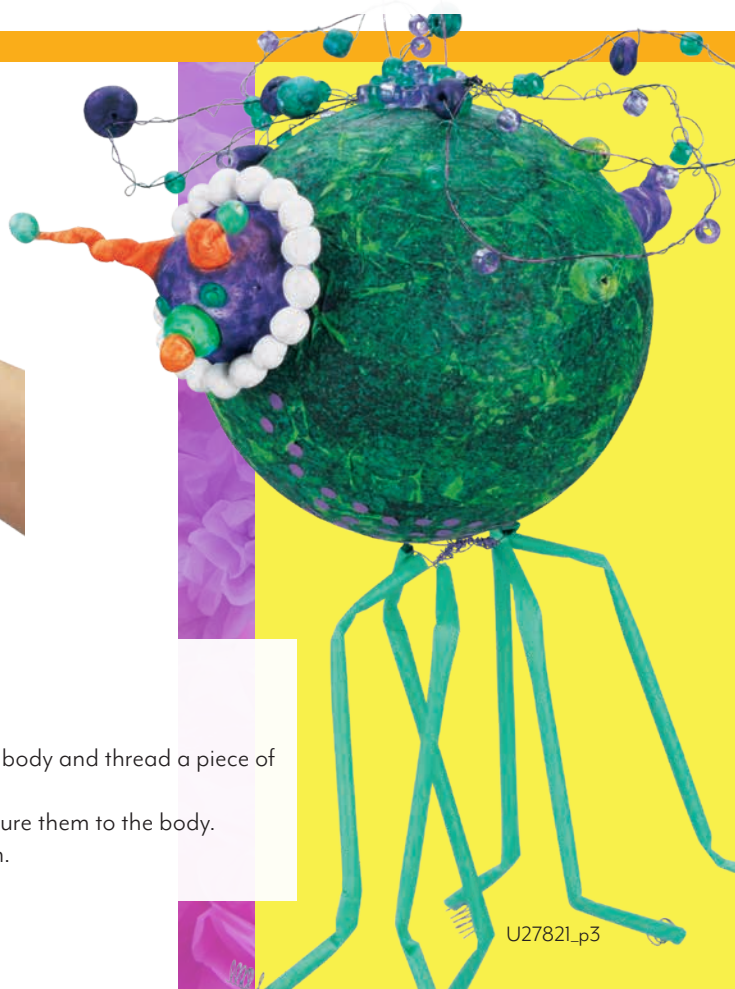
Step 7

- Insert a length of medium-gauge wire (approx. 26") through Artstraws™ to form the six legs.
- Make a set of two legs at a time by inserting the wire into the end of an Artstraw™.
- Take a second Artstraw™, and insert the same wire into the end of this straw.
- Use a pencil or paintbrush to twirl the wire ends that stick out of the ends of the straws.
- Repeat process two more times.
- Bind the three sets of legs together by wrapping a piece of heavy-gauge wire around the leg wires in the middle between the two straws. Wrap tightly two or three times.



Step 8

- Use a potter's needle to gently poke two holes into the bottom of "de-bug" body and thread a piece of heavy-gauge wire through them.
- Wrap this wire around the section where the legs are joined together to secure them to the body.
- Finally, bend the straws 1"-2" from the top and bend again from the bottom.





Materials list

- Balloons, 9", pkg. of 25 (9715554)
- Pacon® Spectra® Deluxe Art Tissue™ Assortment, 20" x 30", 20-Sheet Pkg. (9701229)
- Elmer's® Glue-All Multipurpose Glue (9729430)
- Brushes, set of 42 (9722059)
- Crayola® Model Magic® with Storage Bucket
Assorted Colors (9715579)
White (9708619)
- Nasco Semi-Moist Watercolor Set, 8-color (NE20186)
- Artistic Wire® Buy the Dozen Copper Wire Spools - 22-gauge (9718547)
- Pony beads, translucent, pkg. of 1,000 (9714995)
- Construction paper, assorted colors, 9" x 12", 50 sheets [9727121(AB)]
- Hole punch, 1/4" dia. (9701185)
- Surebonder® Ergonomic Design Low-Temp Mini Glue Gun (9734945)
- All-Temperature Mini Glue Sticks - 4" x 5/16", pkg. of 25 (9728477)
- Needle-nose pliers (0400732)
- Potter's needle (9704659)
- Paper straws

