SPA’s Summer 2020 Art’s First Challenges: TEXTILE ART

Our Art’s First instructor, Tina Logan, has organized a series of Art's First Challenges for young artists to do from home. Our Art's First challenges make connections with the Spring/Summer 2020 exhibit at SPA, "The Edges and Corners of the Day" in our Third Floor Gallery.

We invite you to imagine and create! You are welcome to participate in the Art’s First Challenges in whatever order you wish and with the timing that best fits into your family's plans. Please let us know if you don’t have all of the items that are needed to work on an Art’s First Challenge; we often have spare materials and we would be glad to share! (Just call us at 479-7069 or email us at info@studioplacearts.com).

Art's First Textiles Challenge #1
Tiny Loom Weaving

Materials:
- Small pieces of cardboard or a small box (Matchbox or a box from jewelry)
- Scrap yarns and embroidery threads
- Plastic or metal tapestry needle (with a larger eye and not too sharp)

Try your hand at tiny or mini loom weaving. You can make a collection of them to display as is, or remove your mini weavings from the looms and stitch them together for a mini patchwork quilt. You could also create one of a kind necklaces or earrings with your mini creations!

Try a weaving variation by making a loom from sticks. You can weave found objects from nature or recycled materials like plastic bags or old clothing cut into strips.

Click here to learn more about making a mini loom weaving...
Art's First Textiles Challenge #2
Hand Sewing & Embroidery

Materials:
Scrap fabric or burlap
Embroidery hoop (optional)
Scrap yarns and embroidery thread
Large eyed yarn or tapestry needle

Make a beautiful wall hanging or panel for a pillow by trying some basic sewing and embroidery techniques. You can lightly draw an outline to follow on your fabric or just experiment with different stitches as you go along to see where your work takes you!

Learn about some basic stitches and techniques...

Learn about some basic embroidery stitches...
Art's First Textiles Challenge #3
Ojos de Dios (Mexican God’s Eyes)

Materials:
Scrap yarns in many colors
Popcicle sticks, sticks from tree branches, wooden dowels
Hot glue (optional)

God's eyes were originally made by the Huichol, the indigenous people from western Mexico who are also well known for their exquisite yarn paintings.

Create your own variation of an Ojos de Dios! You can create multiples and turn them into a mobile or attach them together to create a unique wall hanging. Experiment with your own wrapping techniques!

Tutorial on how to make a god's eye
Watch how to make a yarn mandala
A peek at some beautiful Huichol yarn paintings
Art's First Textiles Challenge #4
Make a Stick Family

Materials
Sticks - Y shape stick for the body and a shorter straight one for the arms
Coloured yarn
Googly eyes

Collect some Y shape sticks and some smaller straight sticks. You can cut them to size using a small saw or pruning tool.

Place your straight stick across the Y shaped stick to make the arms and begin wrapping yarn to hold it in place.

Wrap different colored yarns around the sticks to make their 'clothes'. To make the hair wrap yarn around your hand or a piece of cardboard, remove the bundle of yarn and tie a knot around the middle. Trim the looped ends of the yarn to make the hair. Cut a mouth with a saw or craft knife and glue on eyes and hair using a hot glue gun.

Click here for a tutorial...
Art's First Textiles Challenge #5
Little Tin Pocket Pals

Materials:
Scrap fabrics
Small boxes or recycled tin boxes
Glue
Thread and needle
Sculpey clay or model magic (optional)

Put your sewing skills and creativity to action by creating little mini homes or rooms for your imaginary friends. You can make little friends with fabric scraps, model magic or sculpey. Take them along in your pocket or bag for new adventures or leave them behind for others to find.
Our Summertime Activities have been curated by Tina Logan

Tina Logan is an educator and artist who received her BFA in art education in 1987 from Syracuse University, and has been teaching ever since. She currently teaches at Albert D. Lawton Intermediate School in Essex Junction Vt. but also has 20 years of experience teaching elementary aged artists as well. Tina has served as past president and secretary for Vermont Art Teachers Association and participates on many boards and committees that promote the arts and help bring the arts into the community. As an artist, she draws inspiration from her family, students, garden and community.

Credits
The following ideas and images were sourced and gathered from the following sites…

Pinterest and the following links:

https://twitchetts.com/2017/07/space-rocks.html/
https://funfamilycrafts.com/cardboard-aliens/
https://safeYouTube.net/w/TWAM
https://artfulparent.com/blow-painting-with-straws/
https://safeYouTube.net/w/2gBM
https://safeYouTube.net/w/QgBM
https://www.deepspacesparkle.com/futuristic-city-line-drawing-art-project/
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https://minimadthings.com/blogs/news/stick-family

For more info about SPA programming, visit: www.studioplacearts.com