



3D Paper Beetles

OVERVIEW

Students will create 3D beetles inspired by Butch Anthony's taxidermed works. Students will create these bugs using paper, mat board, glue sticks, and tacky glue.

STANDARDS

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

Can bugs and animals be used as art?

STUDENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Students Will:

- know the Internal and External structures serve specific functions within plants and animals
- Generate ideas and employ a variety of strategies and techniques to create a work of art/design.
- Individually brainstorm multiple approaches to an art problem.

STANDARDS FOR FOURTH GRADE

ART EDUCATION

IPM

1. Individually brainstorm multiple approaches to an art problem.
3. Generate ideas and employ a variety of strategies and techniques to create a work of art/design.

RRC

5. Document, describe, and create real or imagined constructed environments.

PAI

12. Interpret art by referring to contextual information and analyzing relevant subject matter, visual qualities, and use of media.

SCIENCE

From Molecules to Organisms Structure and Processes

9. Examine evidence to support an argument that the internal and external structures of plants (e.g., thorns, leaves, stems, roots, colored petals, xylem, phloem) and animals (e.g., heart, stomach, lung, brain, skin) function to support survival, growth, behavior, and reproduction.

11. Investigate different ways animals receive information through the senses, process that information, and respond to it in different ways (e.g., skunks lifting tails and spraying an odor when threatened, dogs moving ears when reacting to sound, snakes coiling or striking when sensing vibrations)

ART DISCUSSION

DISCUSSION PROMPTS

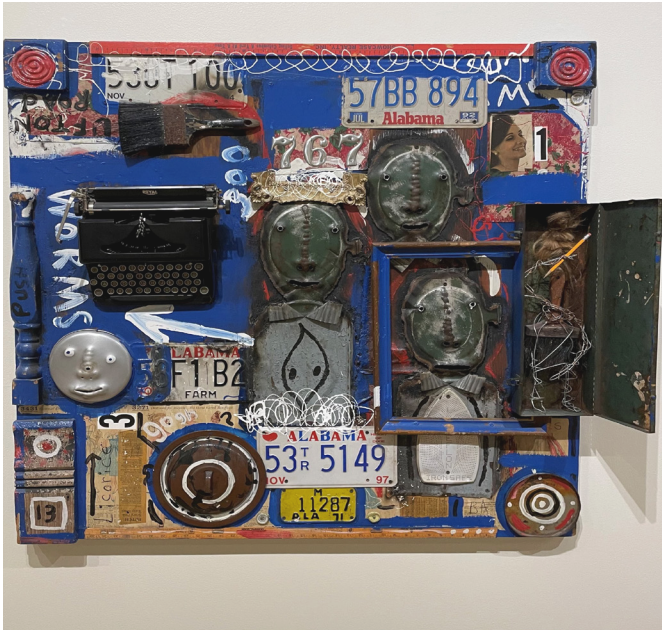
- What is Three Dimensional art?
- What is Folk art?
- What is taxidermy?

ABOUT THE ARTIST

At 14 years old, Butch Anthony built birdhouses to lure birds onto his property which allowed him to practice taxidermy. Butch Anthony created a particular genre of art that he dubbed "Intertwangleism" in the early 1990s, utilizing various media and techniques to craft unique masterpieces. He is influenced in no small measure by his time at Auburn University, where his studies in zoology, geology and biology later manifested in his use of veins and bones in his artwork.

Anthony utilizes a number of techniques in his work – including painting, mixed media collage, large-scale sculpture, and embroidery – pushing the boundaries of found materials into new creations. His work uses found objects and often explores questions of identity. He is most recognized for the 19th century portraits that he finds in antique stores or yard sales, then paints over with skeletons and mythical creatures.

He also built "The World's First Drive Thru Museum" out of shipping containers. It sits off of U.S. Hwy 431 in Seale, Alabama, and exhibits a rotating display of Anthony's handcrafted curiosities and collections. Anthony founded the Possum Trot, a barbeque restaurant turned junk auction house, and the Museum of Wonder, where his wonderful creations and bizarre collections can be admired and purchased. His original designs and compositions are acclaimed both regionally and internationally.



CURRICULUM CONTENT

LEARN ABOUT BUG TAXIDERMY AND STAG BEETLES

In a more specific sense, taxidermy is the preservation of larger animals such as mammals, birds, fishes, and reptiles of etc., while the preservation of arthropods (insects, spiders, crabs etc.) is called pinning and mounting.



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Overall, the preservation has three procedures: killing the specimen, marking the specimen, and mounting. The marking of an individual specimen contains the name of the species, the name of the location where the individual was found, and the date when

the individual is collected. When collecting the specimen, place the specimen in a closed vessel with an alcohol soaked cotton ball. Some may find that technique a little too harsh, so another method is to place them in a freezer for several hours. In other insects, pinning is done by fixing their extremities in the desired (usually in their natural) position with entomological pins. Because of the specimen being wet from the freezer or alcohol from the cotton ball which causes the individual to not stand on its own, pins are used to position the specimen in its natural position. Then once the specimen is dry (can take several days), the pins will be removed which the exoskeleton will remain in its permanent position.



STAG BEETLES

Did you know...

- Stag beetles can fly
- Male stag beetles have jaws while female stags are shorter. Stag beetles have a long life cycle, lasting up to seven years from egg to adult.
- Most Stag beetles live for only a few weeks after emerging as an adult, with many dying during the winter

3D Paper Beetles

ART INSTRUCTION

MATERIALS

Mat board, glue sticks, tacky glue, markers, scissors, construction paper

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1** place beetle template onto construction paper and trace the template. After tracing, cut out outline. The outline is our beetle's body.

Template on Page 4

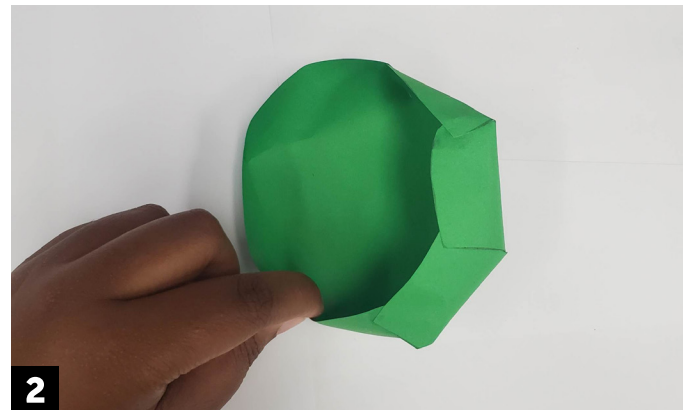
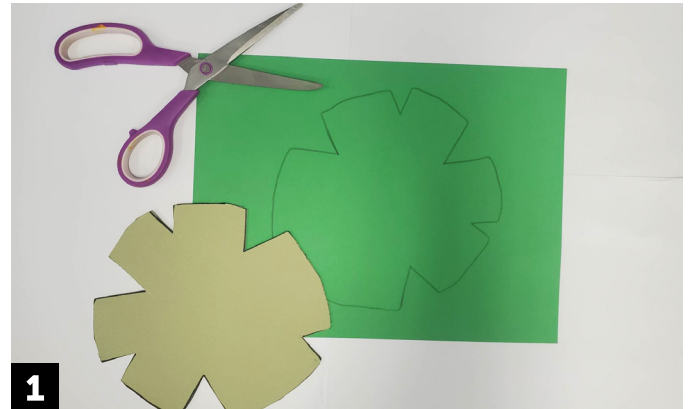
Connect and glue the ends of the beetle's body

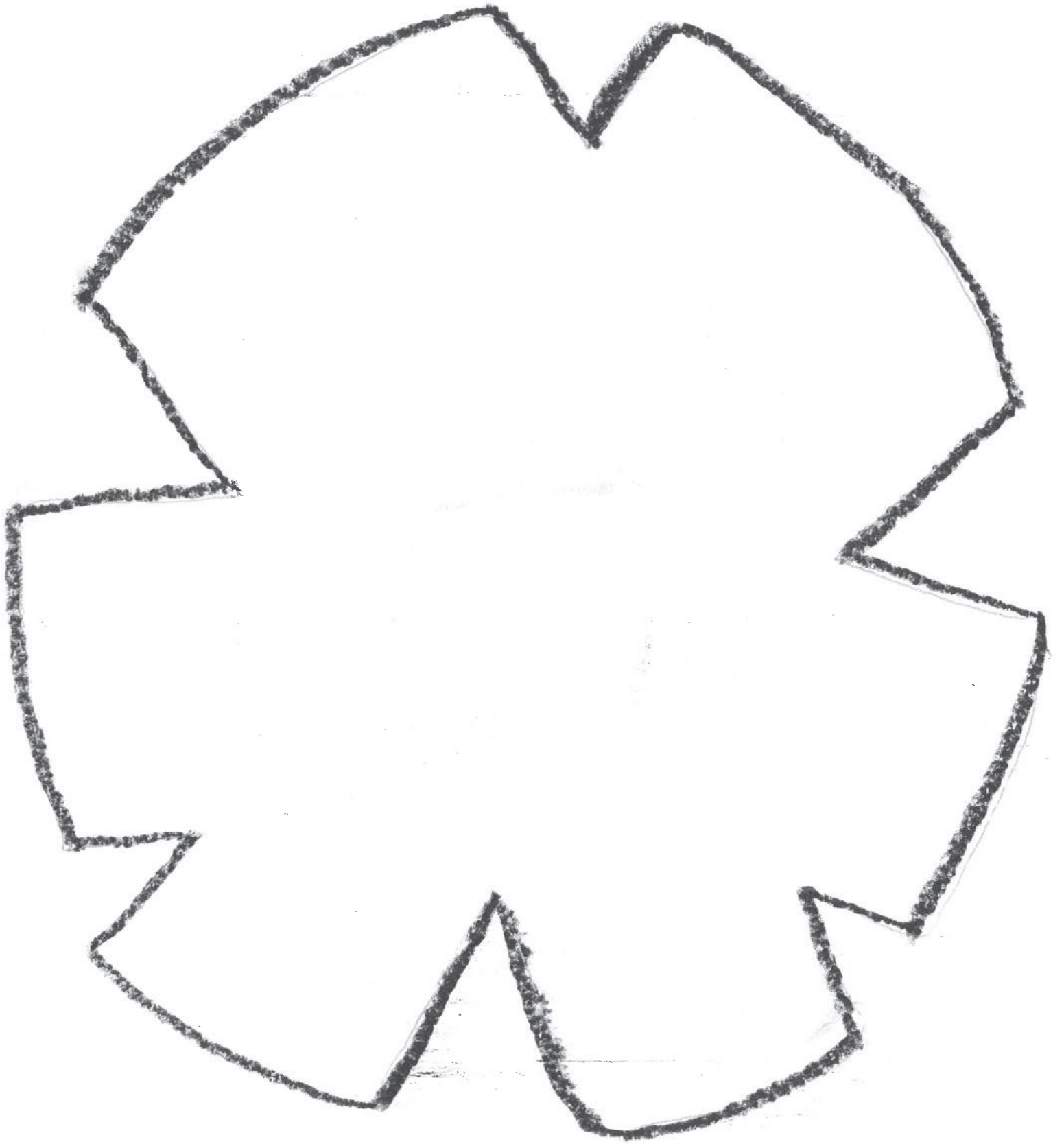
- 2** Draw the Elytra, Unfolded Wings, Mandible and/or Antennas.

- Cut the parts out and glue (for symmetrical wings, fold paper in half, draw wings on one side, then cut the shape out.)

- 3** During this step, allow your students to add additional details using paper or markers to their bugs.

- 4** Once students are finished decorating their beetles, add tacky glue to the underside of the bug and place it onto the mat board







TERMS

TAXIDERMY - part of preserving an animal's body via mounting or stuffing, for the purpose of display or study.

PINNING/MOUNTING-preservation of arthropods (insects, spiders, crabs etc.)

FOLK ART - rooted in traditions that come from community and culture.

THREE DIMENSIONAL - with all the dimensions of height, width, and depth

EXPAND

LINK TO VIDEO GUIDES



RESOURCES

[1] https://www.wiregrassmuseum.org/wma_exhibitions/museum-of-wonder/

[2] <https://www.naturalhistorycuriosities.com/insects/how-taxidermy-works/>