

WEEK 3

Art Studio: Cardboard Construction
Children explore cardboard and practice using tools to build constructions.

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| Big Ideas | People design and build what their community needs. People use tools and materials for specific purposes. |
| Guiding Questions | How can people build a city that works? What resources do we rely on to make our city work? |
| Vocabulary | <p>cardboard: a stiff material made of layers of paper and used to make things like boxes</p> <p>construction: something that is built</p> <p>tool: something used to do something particular, usually held in the hands</p> |
| Materials and Preparation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>The Lost Package</i>, Richard Ho Select and flag a few pages with images of the city. ● cardboard pieces and boxes of various size, thickness, and shape ● MakeDo Cardboard Construction Kit ● masking tape ● clothes pins and/or clips ● scissors ● containers, to put the tools in ● Constructed Artwork resource <p>This resource includes images of two artists and some of their artworks, as well as photos for setting up the activity and of children working with cardboard and MakeDo kits.</p> <p>To become familiar with the MakeDo Construction Kit, review MakeDo How To videos (https://int.make.do/pages/how-to-makedo): how to punch a hole, how to join, how to safely cut, how to fold.</p> <p>Arrange the space either on the floor or on a table—possibly in the meeting area, depending on the classroom size and design.</p> <p>Cut smaller and interesting cardboard shapes in advance by using</p> |

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| | <p>cardboard scissors, the plastic safe saw in the MakeDo kit, electric scissors, or a laser cutter. (Many Boston Public Libraries have laser cutters available for use.)</p> <p>Organize the MakeDo's and other tools in containers easily accessible by children.</p> <p>Note: The MakeDo tools are reusable. Children will create something, it will remain a construction for a length of time (a week or two), and then it will be taken apart so that the MakeDo's can be used to create something else.</p> <p>Bring some pieces from the MakeDo Kit, cardboard pieces, a container with other tools, and <i>The Lost Package</i> to the Intro to Centers meeting.</p> |
| <p>Intro to Centers</p> | <p><i>We are reading The Lost Package By Richard Ho. In this story, a package made with cardboard gets lost. Jessica Lanan, the illustrator, also includes many views of buildings in the city.</i></p> <p>Show the flagged pages.</p> <p><i>What do you notice?</i></p> <p><i>This week in the Art Studio you are going to make constructions with cardboard.</i></p> <p><i>I already cut the cardboard into different shapes and sizes for you to work with. There are also some cardboard boxes you can use and cut yourself.</i></p> <p>Show a selection of different cardboard pieces.</p> <p><i>To put the pieces of cardboard together to make something, you can use different kinds of tools, such as tape, clips, or clothespins. You can also use these tools called MakeDo. I'll show you how to use them.</i></p> <p>Model and describe how to use the MakeDo tools, step by step.</p> <p><i>First, I'll choose two pieces of cardboard to put together. I'll use this yellow mini tool to poke a hole, and then I can use the screwdriver and the screws to connect the pieces of cardboard.</i></p> <p><i>Using these tools is going to be a lot of fun!</i></p> <p><i>You can also choose to use tape, clothespins, or clips to connect the cardboard together.</i></p> <p>As useful, model using any of these materials.</p> <p><i>We have some images of artists and their artwork to inspire you. Louise Nevelson and Charlotte Poseneske are both sculptors.</i></p> <p>Show the images, and facilitate a brief discussion. (The information about Louise Nevelson can be shared as children work.)</p> |

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| | <p><i>What do you notice about these constructions? What do they remind you of? What shapes do you see in the artworks? What do these artworks make you wonder?</i></p> <p><i>We'll have these images at the Art Studio for you to look at. Remember to collaborate and to help each other with these new tools. I can't wait to see how you learn to use the tools and cardboard together.</i></p> |
| During Centers | <p>Support children as they practice using the tools and figure out which tools work best for them to put the cardboard together. Introduce, model, and scaffold techniques such as how to rip, stack, cut, and bend the cardboard. Narrate children's actions as they work, and highlight connections or similarities among their approaches.</p> <p>Share the artists' images as a resource and invite children to talk about what they notice.</p> <p>Encourage children to share strategies and to collaborate with each other. Share images of children working with the kits.</p> <p>Remind children that the MakeDo's are reusable tools, and that after they have shared their first constructions, they will be taken apart to use again. Take photos of children's constructions to preserve and share them.</p> |
| Differentiation ideas | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provide a variety of types and sizes of cardboard. ● Make holes ahead of time in some of the cardboard pieces so children can put the screws in more easily. ● Invite children to just explore the cardboard at first and notice how it feels in their hands as they hold it, bend it, and stack it. ● Model step by step how to use the MakeDo tools. Some children may benefit from more direct instruction on how to build something out of the cardboard. |
| Facilitation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What can you build with cardboard? What shapes can you make? ● How can you balance the cardboard pieces on top of one another? ● What is easy or hard about using these tools? ● What would you like me to notice first about your construction? ● What was the trickiest part about making this? ● What would you do differently next time? ● How are you feeling as you are working with cardboard and tools? |
| Extension | <p>Invite children to incorporate Beautiful Stuff materials with their cardboard constructions, and to decorate their constructions with markers or paint.</p> |

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| Standards | <p>SEL1. The child will be able to recognize, identify, and express his/hers emotions</p> <p>APL2. The child will demonstrate eagerness and curiosity as a learner.</p> <p>APL3. The child will be able to maintain focus and attention, and persist in efforts to complete a task.</p> <p>APL4. The child will demonstrate creativity in thinking and use of materials.</p> |
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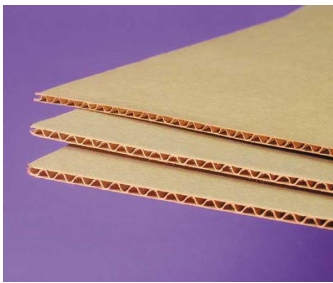
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| Notes |
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U2 W 3-4

Art Easel: Cardboard Construction

Facilitation prompts:

- What can you build with cardboard? What shapes can you make?
- How can you balance the cardboard pieces on top of one another?
- What is easy or hard about using these tools?
- What would you like me to notice first about your construction?
- What was the trickiest part about making this?
- What would you do differently next time?
- How are you feeling as you are working with cardboard and tools?



cardboard



tools



construction

Children are learning to...

- share their feelings about trying something new.
- practice using new tools.
- be creative about how to use materials.

Image citations

cardboard: UTSA Makerspace

tools: housebeautiful.com

construction: gregorkregar.com/portfolio/cardboard-construction/

Centers U2 W3

Constructed Artwork

Louise Nevelson

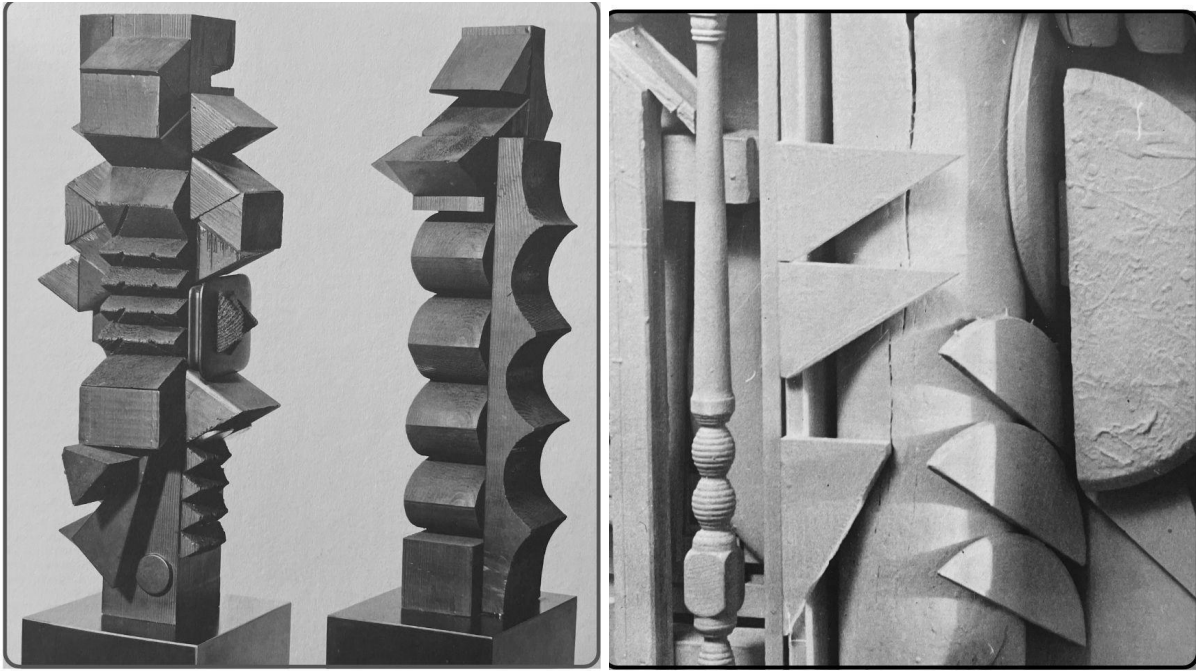


Louise Nevelson, *Sky Cathedral*, (1958). Painted Wood.

Louise Nevelson called herself the 'original recycler' as she loved to collect discarded objects off the sidewalk in New York city and make them into sculptures that she called 'assemblages.' After emigrating to the United States from Ukraine, she grew up in Rockland, Maine where her father was a lumberjack. Seeing her father make things out of wood every day inspired her to become an artist.

Image source: Museum of Modern Art, New York.

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Left: Louise Nevelson *Young Tree VI and XIX* (1971, Collection Walker Art Center)

Right: *Dawn's Wedding Chapel* (1959, Collection Dr. John Horton)



Left: Louise Nevelson in her art studio



Right: Louise Nevelson, *Sky Cathedral* (1958. detail)

Top images: Taken from the book *Nelson: Wood Sculptures, An Exhibition Organized by the Walker Art Center* (1973), published by E.P.Dutton. Bottom images: Left: www.pacegallery.com and Right: MoMA collection

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Charlotte Posenenske



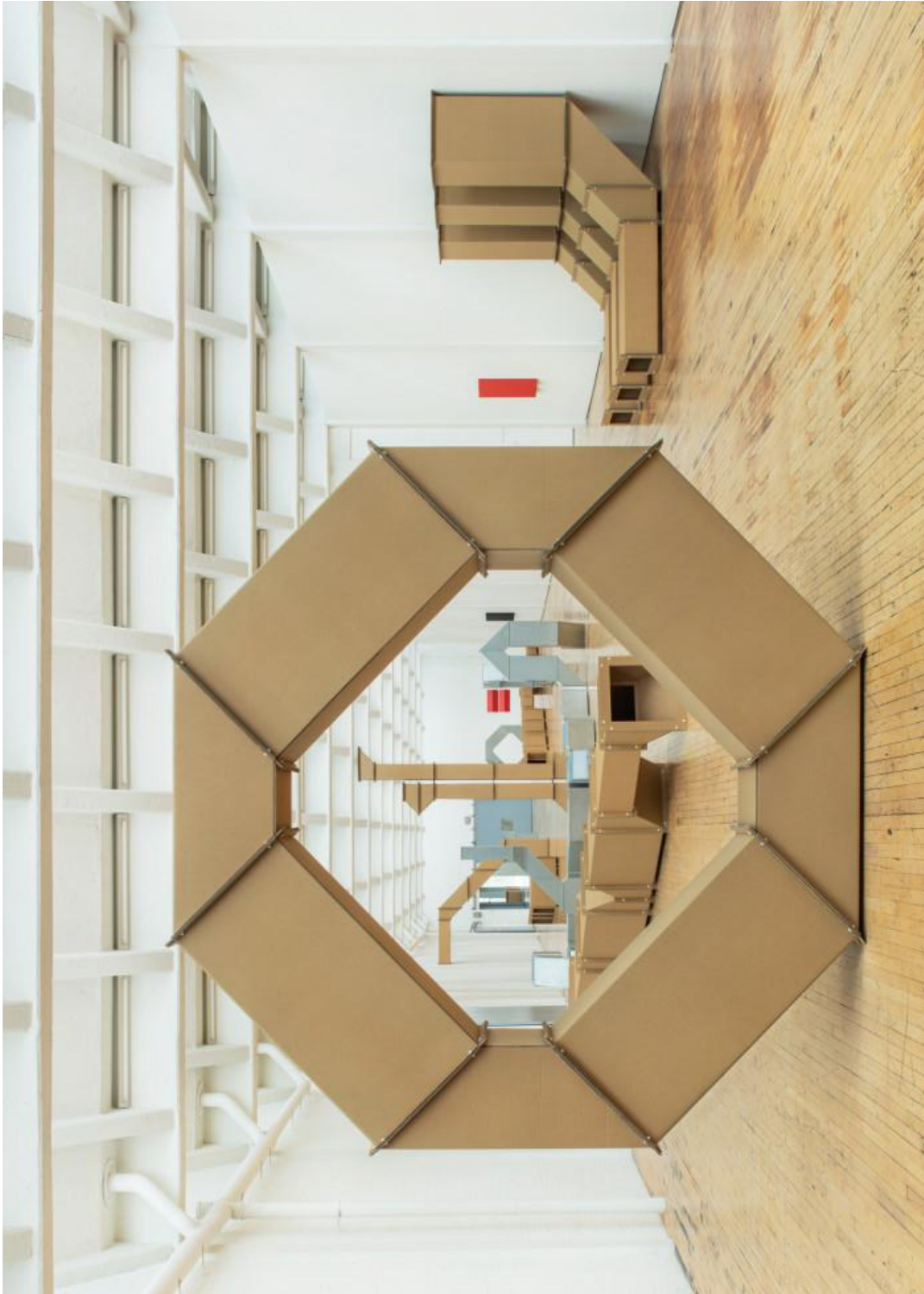
Charlotte Posenenske, *Work In Progress*



Charlotte Posenenske, *Series DE Vierkantrohre (1967)*. Made out of cardboard.

Top image: <https://diaart.org/exhibition/exhibitions-projects/charlotte-posenenske-exhibition>. Photo: Bill Jacobson Studio, New York. Bottom image: www.modernart.net/exhibitions/charlotte-posenenske

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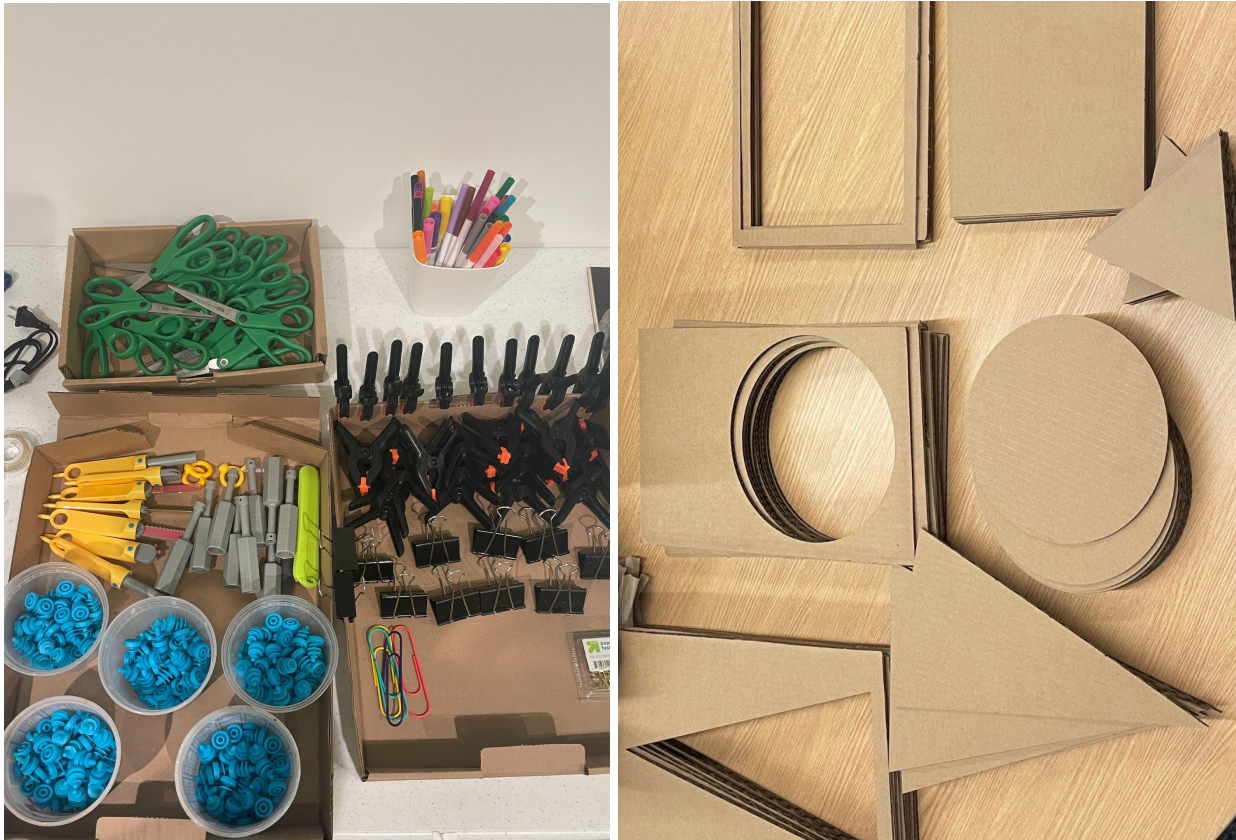


installation view, Dia Beacon, Beacon, New York. (Photo: Bill Jacobson Studio, New York)
<https://diaart.org/exhibition/exhibitions-projects/charlotte-posenenske-exhibition>

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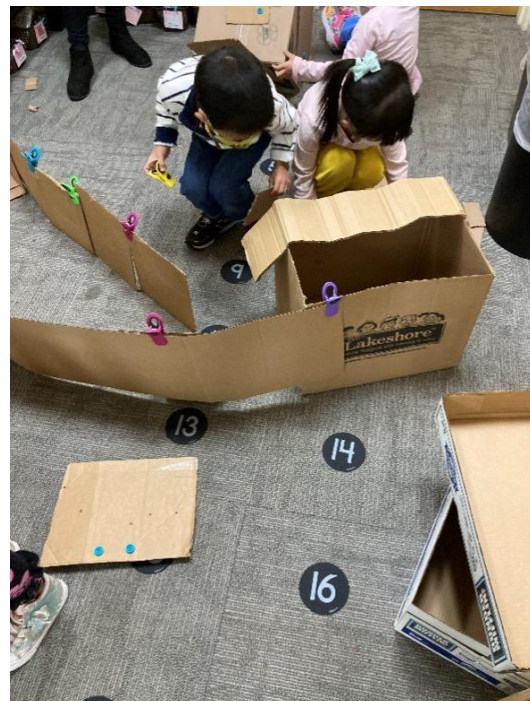
Focus on Pre-K 4s | Boston Public Schools Early Childhood Department P-2

Activity Setup



Photos by Louisa Penfold

Children's Cardboard Constructions



Photos by Michele Dandrea

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