

VISUAL ARTS

2ND/3RD GRADE ACTIVITIES

Introduction: Spending time in nature can help us feel calm, creative and inspired. Land Art is a type of art uses materials found in nature. This artwork is usually left outside in its natural setting for others to enjoy. You can use pattern and radial balance to create your own Land Art. If you want to stay inside, use objects found in your home to create your design.

MATERIALS

Outside: leaves, sticks, rocks, flowers, pinecones, or shells

Inside: buttons, beads, uncooked pasta/lentils/beans, cutlery, paper clips, rubber bands, or thumbtacks



MENTOR ARTIST: Andy Goldsworthy



Andy Goldsworthy is a British land artist who creates outdoor sculptures, designs, and structures using natural materials like rocks, ice, sticks, leaves, snow and even rain. He calls his artwork a "collaboration with nature." Sometimes Goldsworthy uses radial balance to create designs with leaves, rocks, or sticks, like in the picture on the left.

"We often forget that we are nature. Nature is not something separate from us."

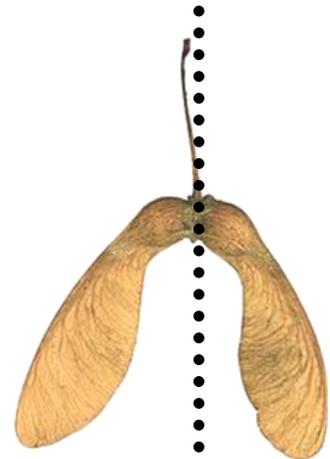
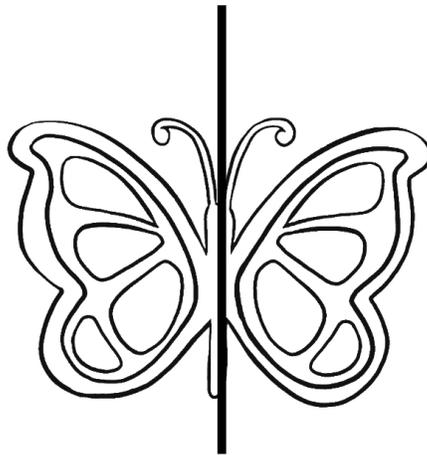
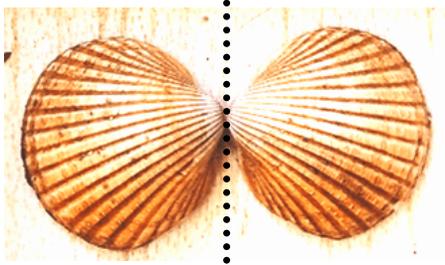
~ANDY GOLDSWORTHY

VOCABULARY

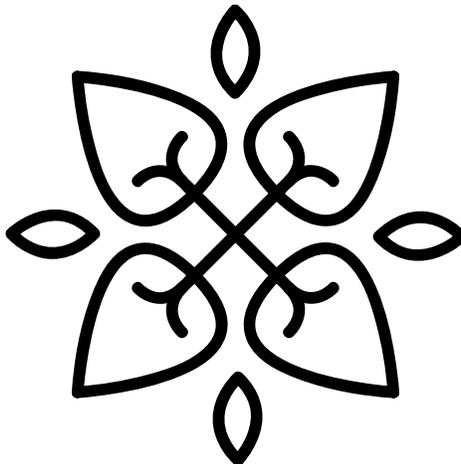
Pattern: Repeating elements like lines, shapes, color, etc.

Balance: Equal weight all the way around

Symmetrical Balance: Same on both sides



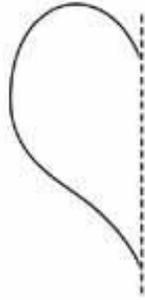
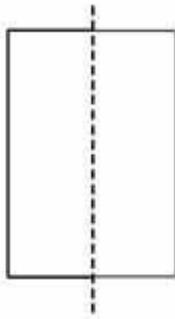
Radial Balance: Elements repeat around a center point



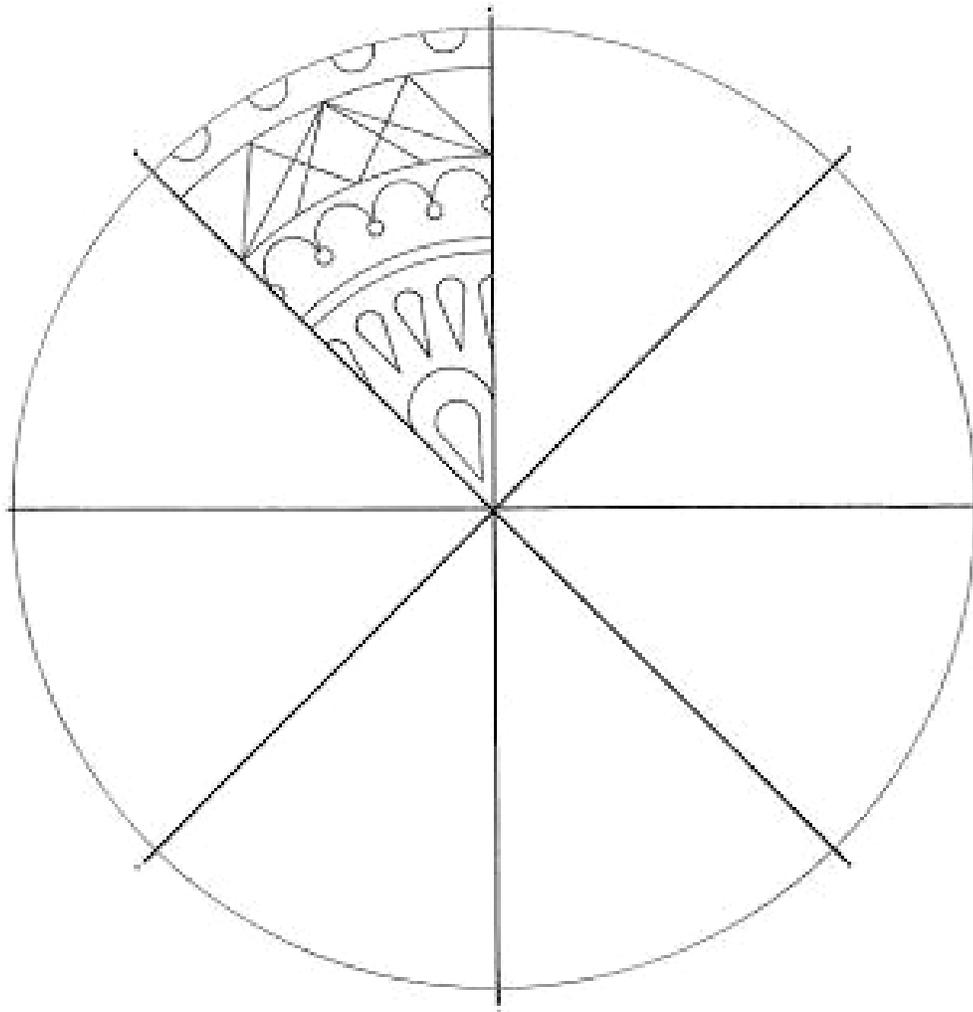
PRACTICE

Complete the drawings below to create the correct type of balance.

SYMMETRICAL



RADIAL



STEP 1: FIND A SPACE

Find a space in nature. It could be your yard, or a local garden or park. Take in the landscape and nature around you. If you want to stay inside, find a space in your home and observe the room around you.

Take in the space you have chosen. What do you notice? What do you see? Hear? Smell? What do you enjoy?



STEP 2: GATHER OBJECTS

What do you see? What can you gather? Start collecting materials that you would like to use.

Make sure you have at least three or four of each object you select. This will help you create a design that has radial balance.

Outside



Inside



STEP 3: RADIAL BALANCE DESIGN

Choose an item as the center of your design (rocks and flowers work well). Start building your pattern out from the center. Repeat each object multiple times in a circle around the center. This will help you create a pattern with radial balance.



STEP 4: FINISHED!

Once you finish your design, take a moment to admire your pattern and enjoy the peaceful space you have helped create. Snap a photo, show a friend/family member, or draw a picture of your design. Then leave the artwork as a surprise for future visitors to this spot.

Inside



Outside

If you wish to draw your design, use the space below.

