

Recycled Can Art

Grade level 9-12



Objective	Students will construct a piece of art made out of recycled aluminum cans. It may be 3-D or 2-D. Inspiration comes from the Red Bull Art of Can competitions and other recycled can art. Students will learn how art can come from many different sources and take on many different forms. They will learn the value of using recycled materials in art.
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Access to the internet and Ping.fm throughout the project• Pictures of examples of recycled art and can art. Especially useful is Red Bull Art of Can competitions.• Aluminum drink cans-any kind• Scissors, razorblades, etc.• Hot glue, super glue• Newspaper, masking tape, styrofoam, etc. – to create 3-D supporting structure• Any other materials that may be needed to create each individual project
Procedure	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Students first need to create a free account with Ping.fm. It will be used throughout the course of the project.2) At the beginning of the lesson, talk about art using recycled materials and show a few specific artists known for recycled art. This could be through pictures or looking

through artist's websites.

- 3) Show images of aluminum can art, both 2-D and 3-D using different types of cans. Focus on Red Bull Art of Can competitions and the many different ways you can use cans to create art- different cans for different colors, other materials to help show objects, 2-D work like paintings, making singular objects or showing a story, etc.
- 4) Students work on preliminary sketches of ideas of their own piece of can art. During this time, they also begin collecting cans and other materials they might need.
- 5) With the help of the teacher, students chose one idea to complete as their project.
- 6) Throughout the course of the next few classes, students work on their projects. They can be 2-D or 3-D and be put together in a variety of ways.
- 7) When final projects are completed they will be presented to the class by the student in a critique format.
- 8) Throughout this entire project, students will use Ping.fm to track their progress. During different points throughout their progress, they will update their status on social networking sites to talk about what they are doing, learning, and finding. Pictures of their work in stages can be uploaded as well as videos. This is a good way for them to keep on track, show their work to family and friends, and also keep the teacher updated on their progress outside of class.

Evaluation

Students will have created either a 2-D or 3-D piece of work made out of mostly aluminum cans. Different types of cans can be used throughout. At least 80% of the project must be made out of the cans. Students will present their piece explaining it and how it was made. Students will critique each other's work using constructive criticism and design principles/elements.

Lesson Created by Laura Becker

Left and right image from: Red Bull

http://www.redbull.com/cs/Satellite/en_INT/Article/Red-Bull-Art-of-Can--Inspired-Recycling-021243001231102

Center image from: Recycled Art

<http://www.recycleforthearts.org/recycled-aluminium-can-art-soda-can-art.html>