

Mosaics of Cyprus



Lesson Title: *Mosaics of Cyprus*

Objective: *Following a lesson on mosaics in Cyprus, students will be able to correctly describe in their own words the origins of mosaics and how they are created.*

Grade Level, Subject and State Standards: *This lesson was created as content to introduce middle school students to Microsoft Paint in a computers class. The lesson could easily apply to state standards in social studies (Middle East Studies), Math (tessellations) and Fine Arts.*

Activities: *Students will create their own “digital” mosaic using Microsoft Paint. A blank tile grid is included so the lesson can be completed without student computers. Students can use colored pencils or create their own using colored paper tiles.*

Materials: *“Mosaics of Cyprus” PowerPoint Presentation and Mosaic template for Microsoft Paint*

Procedures:

1. Ask students to brainstorm what forms of art have been around for the longest.
2. Tell students that in this lesson they will learn about a form of art that has been around since the days of ancient Greek and Romans.
3. Give “*Mosaics of Cyprus*” PowerPoint Presentation. During presentation have students fill out note taking guide.
4. After introducing the tools in Microsoft Paint, have students create a “digital” mosaic. They will need to copy the file “Mosaic tile template” and save it with a new name. Point out to them that in the template the tiles are colored grey and the “grout” is colored white. If they accidentally color the grout, they will need to click on “*edit/undo*” before doing anything else. The function only allows you to backup one step.



6. If computers are not available, print out a copy “mosaic tile template for paper” for each student and use colored pencils.
7. Have students create a larger class mosaic by cutting out the individual tiles and assembling them together on a bulletin board or wall.
8. A completed Student example and a blank sheet are attached.

Resources:

Utah Museum of Fine Arts, University of Utah, <http://www.umfa.utah.edu>

<http://www.thejoyofshards.co.uk/history/index.shtml>

Cyprus, Lonely Planet

The Rough Guide to Cyprus

Study Trip, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, University of Arizona





Mosaics of Cyprus: *Note taking guide*

What forms of artwork have been around the longest on our planet?

What are tesserae and what are they used for?

How were the mosaics at Pafos discovered?

What city was the main commercial center during Roman times?

Describe in your own words the origins of mosaics and tell how they are created?



Completed Student Example



