

JSMA Creates

Lesson 2: Abstract with a KAWS

JORDAN SCHNITZER MUSEUM OF ART

JSMA Creates

A series of object based art lessons to do at home. These projects are developed by museum educators for artists and adventuresome kids of all ages and skill levels. Tag your final art with **#JSMAcreates** for a chance to be featured in a virtual exhibition.

Lesson 2: Abstract with a KAWS

Artist: KAWS

The artist KAWS is an American artist who creates sculptures, paintings, and prints based on characters he created as well as tweaked versions of iconic cartoon characters. KAWS uses bright and contrasting colors in his abstract pieces with repeated use of X's.



MATERIALS

- **Half sheet of 8 ½ x 11" paper**
- **Markers, crayons, or acrylic paints**
- **A reference image of your favorite cartoon character**

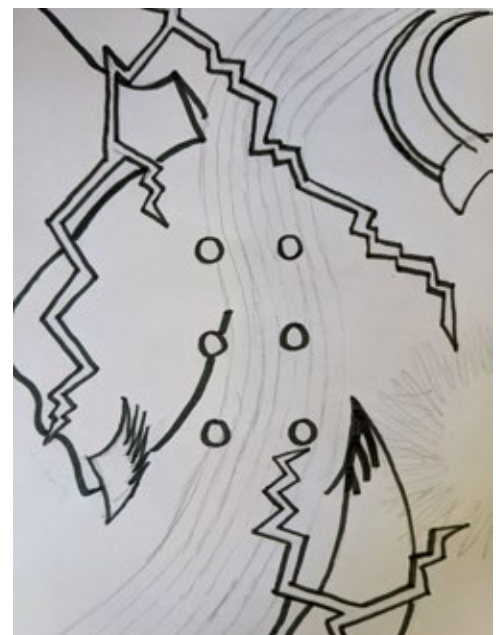
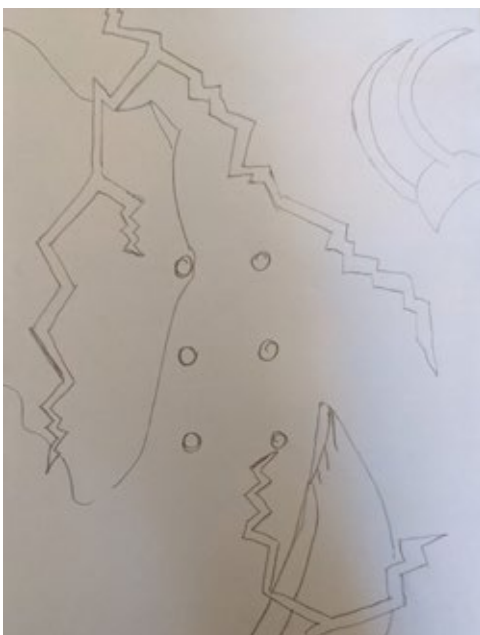
OPTIONAL

- **Scissors**
- **Highlighters for brighter colors**



STEPS

- 1 Gather materials for the project.
- 2 Look up KAWS' abstract paintings. Abstract pieces use various lines, shapes, colors, and symbols to create a piece which is interpreted differently by each viewer. This means each abstract piece is subjective.
- 3 Look up your favorite cartoon series on the internet and choose a reference image. Select four colors from your markers, crayons, or colored pencils which match the colors of the cartoon image chosen.
- 4 Use a black marker or other utensil to draw outlines related to the cartoon character you selected.
- 5 After drawing the outlines, draw overlapping lines, shapes, and symbols using the black utensil.





x's and 3d rectangles detail example. © KAWS



- 6 Optional: use repetitive motifs KAWS uses such as X's and 3D rectangles.
- 7 Optional: Use shadows, outlining, and contrasting colors to make the drawings pop off the paper in a 3D manner.
- 8 Fill in the entire sheet of paper with the four colors related to your cartoon image. Feel free to add in other colors to the piece.
- 9 After you complete your work of art, use the hashtag [#JSMACreates](#) and submit it to the JSMA

Adaption for children with fine motor challenges:

- A Use their favorite writing or painting material to create an abstract piece on paper or canvas. They can use whatever colors they enjoy or use colors from their favorite characters.

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