**Volunteer Notes**

**For Henri Matisse**

**(AHN-REE MAH-TEESS)**

**Items Needed:**

Construction paper:

* Dark blue, light blue, and black for the background.
* Each student will need around a 12x9 sheet of construction paper in one of the above colors for the background.
* They will need an additional piece of construction paper to complete their background in a different color but still dark blue, light blue or black. The pieces need to be at least 12 inches across, but they can cut them to fit their own paper according to height (see samples).

Scraps of construction paper in a variety of colors for creatures/objects.

Glue Sticks (30)

Ocean templates (included)

\*From classroom: pencils, scissors

**Concepts being taught:** Please be able to understand and explain these concepts with the students**.**

**Symbolism-** Images that represent a story, person, ideas or feelings. Matisse told stories through the symbolism in colors as well as shapes. For example to him blue represented truth or heaven, green was growth, change or nature, and orange represented love and gentleness, while red was excitement and fire. **Collage-** Art work made by cutting up various materials- string, fabric, tissue paper, photos, seeds, ribbons, etc. and putting them together with glue or other bonding material. **Geometric shape recognition**- By recognizing you can create most things by using simple shapes such as circles, ovals, squares, rectangle, etc. **Geometric shapes**- Shapes that are commonly found in geometry, such as squares, triangles and rectangles.  
**Organic shapes**- Shapes that are commonly found in nature, usually with curved, irregular lines.  
**Positive space**- The area an item takes up with itself.   
**Negative space**-The area around a shape or in between shapes, where you can see the background behind a shape.  
**Repeating shapes** — the same shape, repeated multiple times, often in a grouping or making a path across the paper. Size can vary, or be the same.  
**Focal Point-** The focal point is the center of interest or activity in a work of art. It may or may not be the actual center of a painting or drawing, but it is always the most important part. Contrast, structure and color are three things that help define the focal point.

* **Contrast** puts something dark on a light area, or the opposite, something bright in a dark area. Like the red heart in *“Jazz Icarus”*. The red heart stands out also due to being a spot of ***warm color*** in a ***cool color*** field. The use of ***Complementary colors*** (opposites on the color wheel) also helps create focal points.
* The **structure** of an artwork influences where we look. The lines of the artwork should flow toward the focal point, leading our gaze to the most important feature. This can include the lines of architecture, rivers and roads, as well as the direction that objects, people or animals are facing within the artwork.

**Other Notes:** Please be sure to read through *all* instructions with the students before they begin any project.

Students may use the provided templates, or make their own shapes.

Have the students "play" with their shapes on their backgrounds, moving them around, before gluing them down.

Try to remind them to create a Focal Point in their pictures either through color choices, or structure (placement) of their pieces.

Save all scraps for other classes. And HAVE FUN!