**Volunteer Notes**

**For M.C. Escher**

Items Needed:

Art Paper (2 per)

3” by 3” cardstock (index card) square-

 (1 per)

Black Sharpies (10)

 Construction paper crayons (15) or Pastels (15)

Tape (1 roll)

From Classroom: Pencils, erasers, scissors

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

**Abstract art-**Art that is geometric in design or simplified from its natural appearance; does not need to look like anything real.

**Tessellations-** A design made from shapes that fit together perfectly, over and over, and cover a flat space. The squares of a checkerboard are a simple tessellation.

 **Printmaking-** An art technique that involves taking a print of an image with ink, paint, etc. and pressing it on to another material such as paper or a canvass to transfer the image.Some types of printing methods are lithographs, woodcuts or mezzotints. *Lithographs* involve using chemicals to create areas that won’t hold ink. *Woodcuts* and *Mezzotints* involve cutting and scoring a surface to hold ink; in the case of mezzotints this is copper sheets.

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

There is another tessellation pattern of a fish included, or for a simpler tessellation of a cat or fox you could show the students they can stop after step 3 (on slide 9) of the bird tessellation.

If feeling brave you may let the students make their own tessellations, remembering the pieces removed must remain facing the same direction and be placed on the side opposite of where it was removed. They may want to try with 3” by 3”paper square first to see if it works, before cutting out their cardboard.

The students may choose their own color scheme, but 3-4 alternating colors may give best results. Keep details simple unless they have time at the end.

Have Fun!