

Elements: Geometric Shapes & Line

Principles: Proportion/Scale - The size relationships between objects.

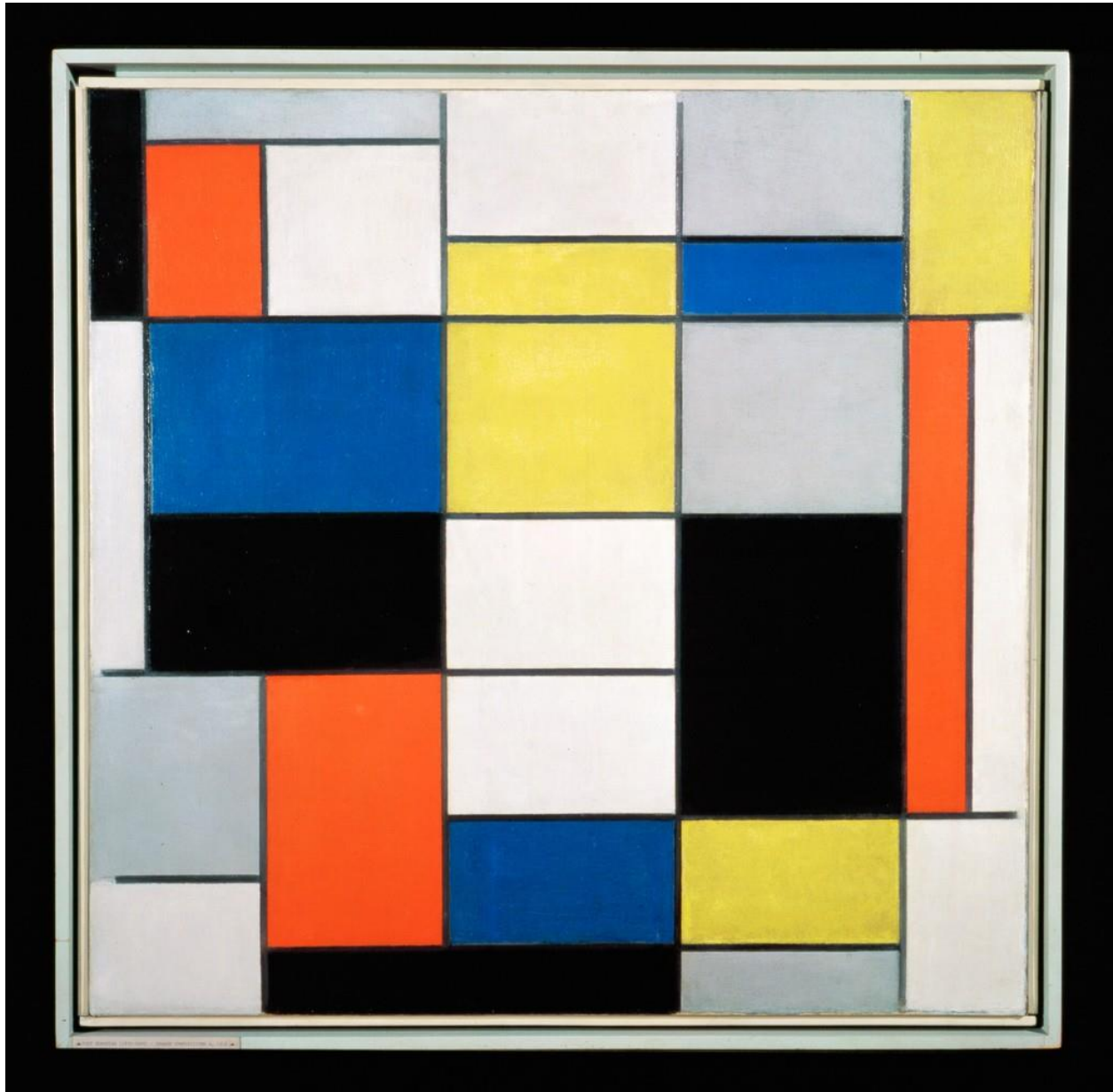
Materials:

- 12" x 18" white construction paper
- 9" x 12" colored construction paper (many colors)
- black oil pastel OR black sharpie
- scissors
- glue
- If the Dinosaurs Came Back* (by Bernard Most)

Instructions:

1. Before reading *If the Dinosaurs Came Back*, talk about different styles of **line** (broken, continuous, wavy, zig zag) and **geometric shapes** (example below). Have the kids look for these things within the illustrations of the book.
2. Introduce the concept of **proportion** and talk about the size of the dinosaurs in comparison to the buildings.
3. Show the art sample, pointing out the shapes of buildings/windows, and let children select which color construction paper they want to make their dinosaur from (they may end up needing more than one sheet, depending on how big their dinos get).
4. **Model cutting** out a dinosaur from shapes. Example: long oval for T-rex body, followed by long tail and neck (half the size of tail), smaller oval head, then small rectangle arms, and bigger triangle legs with circles for feet. Tell the students to put the pieces together like a puzzle to see if their proportions are right.
5. Talk about the dinosaur body shapes and **have the students use their hand size to get proportion right for cutting out dinosaur bodies** (the body should be bigger than their whole hand, then they cut out legs/arms/tail/neck).
6. You can have students just **use scissors to cut shapes and puzzle them together** until they get their dinosaur all put together. You may want to have at least a couple varieties of dinosaurs cut out to show students this step.
7. Pile the pieces of dinosaur together and place them off to the side of the white paper.
8. Pass out sharpies (or oil pastels) and remind children that sharpies are only appropriate on paper (or that oil pastels smear so they need to use them carefully).
9. Have students **draw** their city landscapes in sharpie (or oil pastel); no need to use pencil first, but remind them to use geometric shapes.

10. Once background is finished, have them **glue** their dinosaur onto the city scene. Have students add a small mouth and one eye to the profile of their dinosaur.
11. Have students write their name on art, then collect sharpies and have students clean up their spaces.



Dutch artist – **Piet Mondrian** – *Composition A* – 1920

Shape closes a two-dimensional area that is defined in some way. Shapes may be open or closed, positive or negative, and free form (natural) or geometric.