Frank Lloyd Wright’s “Art-chitecture”

Book Connection

The newly re-constructed Bachman-Wilson House at Crystal Bridges inspired our newsletter this month. Frank Lloyd Wright is one of the most famous architects of all time. His structures combine efficient use of space with clean lines, beautiful detail, and expert craftsmanship. Frank Lloyd Wright for Kids by Kathleen Thorne-Thomson is a great book to learn about this renowned architect. It includes biographical information, famous buildings, and fun activities to inspire and explore.

Inspired Activity

Our Frank Lloyd Wright inspired activity is about creating “art-chitecture” of our own. For this project you’ll need: thick paper or cardstock, a pencil, scissors, tape, and a ruler. For the designs, you can use whatever kind of utensils and supplies that you’d like; collage, markers, paint, whatever you’re inspired by!

1. Choose 2-3 pieces of cardstock and put them next to each other so they’re connected and touching. Before starting to draw, it’s good to research and look at different types of buildings and the many shapes we use in building. Once you’re ready, use your ruler and pencil to draw the straight lines of the different buildings. To add variety, try overlapping the buildings and making them different heights. And remember, not all buildings are rectangle!

2. After drawing, you can start adding designs with whatever medium you’ve chosen. Be sure to use different shapes, sizes, and textures in your windows, doors, and other details.

3. To finish, cut out your cityscape and tape the pieces together at the edges. You now have a finished piece of “art-chitecture” that stands up on its own so that you can display it!

Be sure to visit the Bachman-Wilson House at Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art! The exhibition opens on November 11, 2015.

Inspired activity by Shelby Clark, Children’s Library Clerk & Art Educator.
Additional Library Resources

Print
Frank Lloyd Wright for Kids by Kathleen Thorne-Thomsen [JNF 720.92 THO]
Moxie: The Dachshund of Falling Water by Cara Armstrong [PIC Armstrong Cara]
Frank Lloyd Wright by Don Nardo [JNF 92 Wright Frank Lloyd]
Building with Shapes by Rebecca Weber [ENF 720.1 WEB]
From Mud Huts to Skyscrapers by Christine Paxmann [JNF 720 PAX]
Iggy Peck, Architect by Andrea Beaty [PIC Andrea Beaty]

E-Learning on our website’s Student Portal
(k-4) eLibrary Elementary (Proquest) -

(k-4) World Book Online for Kids -

(5-6) World Book Student -