



Craft
Ages 8–12
20–30 minutes

Kaleidoscope

Description

Participants create their own kaleidoscope

Number of Participants

For any number of participants

Space Considerations

An indoor space with tables and chairs where participants can be seated to do a craft

Competencies

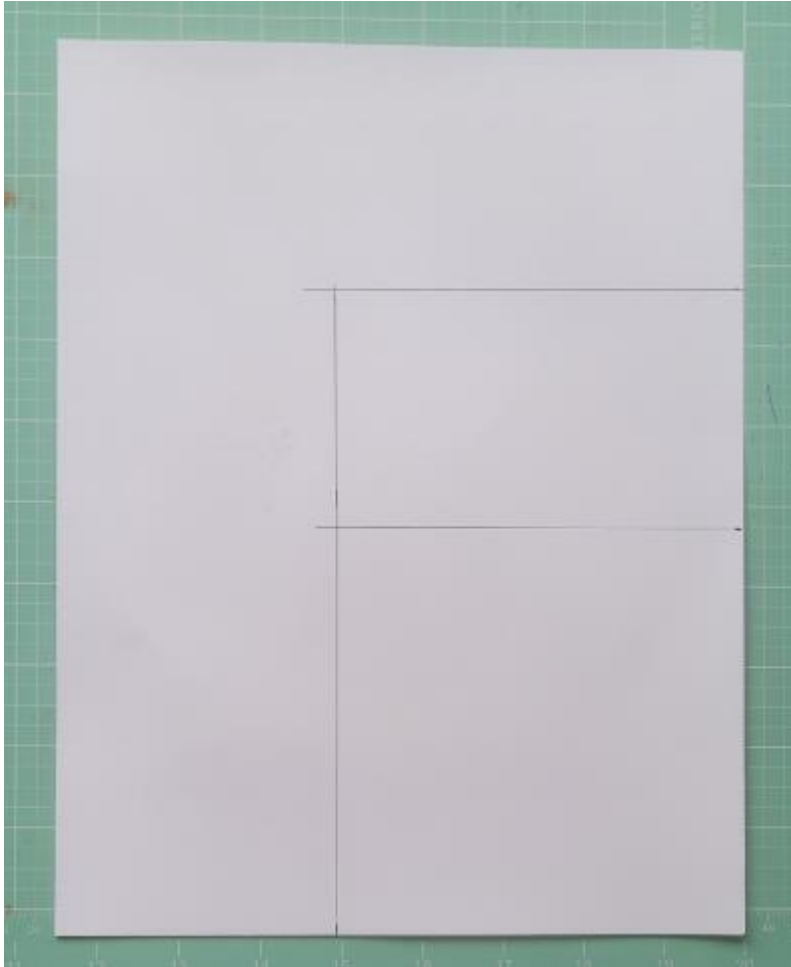
- Artistic expression
- Creative and imaginative thinking
- Engineering

Materials

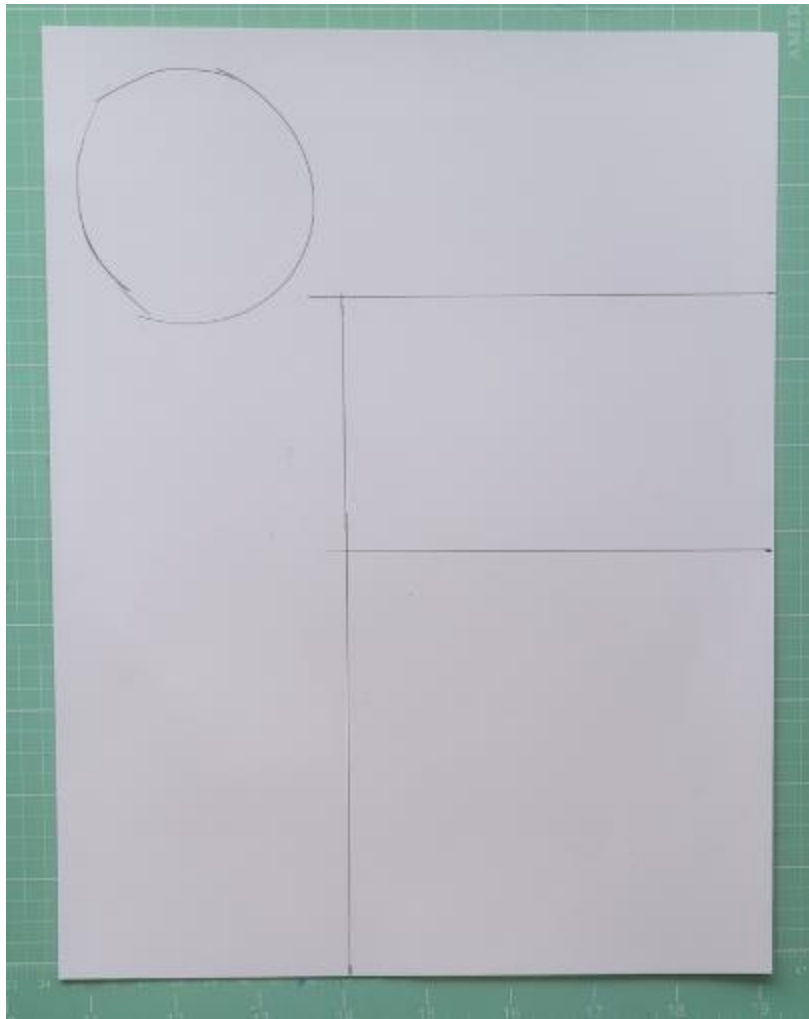
- Cardstock
- Aluminum foil
- Wooden dowel (cut to 6 inches or less) or small pencil
- Glue
- Ruler
- Crayons, pencil crayons, or markers
- One-hole punch
- Scissors

Implementation

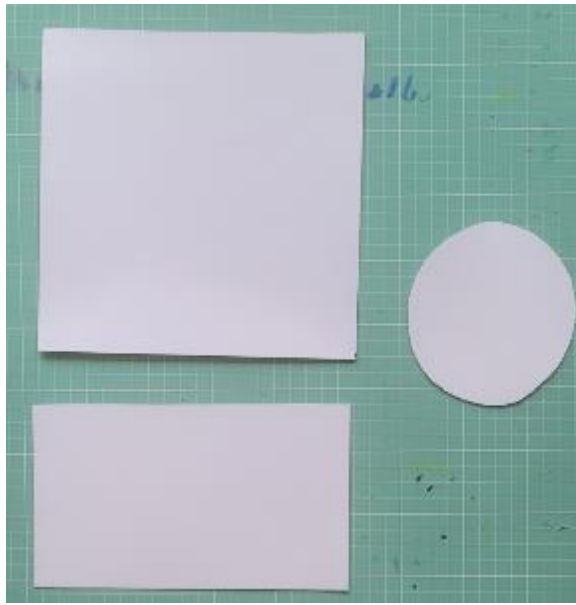
1. Use your ruler to measure out a 5-by-5-inch square and a 5-by-3-inch rectangle on your sheet of cardstock



2. Next, draw a circle approximately 3 inches in diameter on your cardstock. The circle should fit on the same sheet as the rectangles



3. Cut out your shapes



4. Use your 3-by-5-inch rectangle as a guide to measure out the equivalent shape in aluminum foil, and cut this out



5. Glue the duller side of the aluminum foil down onto the cardstock rectangle that is the same size. The shinier side of the aluminum foil should be facing up



6. Fold inward from each edge about 1 inch to form a triangular prism shape, like so:





7. Use a piece of tape to close the triangular prism at the top



8. Take your 5-by-5 cardstock square and decorate it with colours



9. With the colourful side facing out, roll the 5-by-5 square around the triangular prism and secure it in place with tape



10. Tape your dowel on top of the roll so it sticks out a little bit over one of the edges:



11. Take your 3-inch cardstock circle and decorate it any way you like. Lots of different colours will make the kaleidoscope effect better.



12. Using your hole punch, make a hole in the middle of the circle. If you don't have access to a hole punch, use scissors to poke a hole (adult assistance required). The hole should be about the same size as the diameter of your wooden dowel – don't make the hole too big!



13. Slide the coloured side of your circle onto the dowel



14. Look through the end of the kaleidoscope towards light as you turn the circle. You've made a kaleidoscope! If desired, create different coloured circles and try them out on your kaleidoscope



Accessibility Considerations

- Offer kids a variety of instruments to colour their image, and encourage them to choose what they feel most comfortable with
- Offer tactile elements for kids to decorate their kaleidoscopes
- Read and print the instructions for this activity
- Offer easy-grip scissors
- Assist participants with cutting, gluing, and taping as needed
- Offer pre-cut shapes
- Offer larger glue sticks

Book Suggestions

Inside In: X-Rays of Nature's Hidden World by Jan Paul Schutten and Arie van 't Riet

My Art, My World by Rita Winkler

Why Does My Shadow Follow Me?: More Science Questions From Real Kids by Kira Vermond and Suharu Ogawa

Download Links

Full Activity PDF

Images

