Name: _____ Date: _____

Making a Picture from Broken Tiles

Circle group

A mosaic is a picture made of many tiny pieces. The pieces can be tile, glass, or stone. One piece is called a tessera.

The artist makes a plan. First, the artist draws the picture on a flat board. Next, the artist spreads glue. Then the pieces are pressed into the glue, one by one. Pieces of one color go together. The shapes are easy to see.

Last, the gaps are filled. This holds the pieces in place. The top is smooth.

Up close, you see small pieces. Far away, you see one big picture.

Questions

1. What is a mosaic?

_____

_____

2. What is one piece called?

_____

_____

3. What does the artist draw on the board first?

_____

_____

4. What goes on the board before the pieces?

_____

_____

5. Why does a mosaic look different up close and far away?

_____

_____

Words to know

mosaic: a picture made from many small pieces
tessera: one small piece in a mosaic
tile: a flat piece of baked clay or stone

gaps: empty spaces between things

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Making a Picture from Broken Tiles

Triangle group

A mosaic is a picture made from many tiny pieces. The pieces can be bits of tile, glass, or stone. Each piece is called a tessera.

An artist begins with a plan. First, the artist draws the picture on a flat board. Next, the artist spreads a thin layer of glue. Then the small pieces are pressed into the glue, one by one. Pieces of the same color go together, so the shapes are easy to see.

Last, the gaps between the pieces are filled. This holds everything in place and makes the surface smooth.

If you stand close, you see little pieces. If you step back, the pieces blend into one big picture.

Questions

1. What is a mosaic?

_____

_____

2. What is one piece of a mosaic called?

_____

_____

3. What does the artist draw on the board first?

_____

_____

4. What is spread on the board before the pieces go on?

_____

_____

5. Why does a mosaic look different up close and far away?

_____

_____

Words to know

mosaic: a picture made from many small pieces
tessera: one small piece in a mosaic
tile: a flat piece of baked clay or stone
gaps: empty spaces between things

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Making a Picture from Broken Tiles

Square group

A mosaic is a picture that has been assembled from hundreds of tiny pieces. The pieces may be bits of tile, glass, or stone, and every single piece is called a tessera.

An artist begins with a careful plan. First, the artist sketches the picture on a flat board. Next, the artist spreads a thin layer of glue across the board. Then the small pieces are pressed into the glue one at a time. Pieces of the same color are grouped together so that the shapes are easy to recognize.

Finally, the gaps between the pieces are filled in. This holds everything firmly in place and leaves the surface smooth.

When you stand close, you notice only the little pieces. When you step back, they blend together into one large picture.

Questions

1. What is a mosaic?

_____

_____

2. What is each individual piece of a mosaic called?

_____

_____

3. What does the artist sketch on the board first?

_____

_____

4. What is spread across the board before the pieces are pressed on?

_____

_____

5. Why does a mosaic look different from up close and from far away?

_____

_____

Words to know

mosaic: a picture made from many small pieces
tessera: one small piece in a mosaic
tile: a flat piece of baked clay or stone
gaps: empty spaces between things

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

For the teacher: Making a Picture from Broken Tiles

Each student sheet carries a shape, not a level. The same topic and facts, written three ways.

Circle: Making a Picture from Broken Tiles

Easier · 95 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 1.8

1. A picture made of many tiny pieces.
2. A tessera.
3. The picture.
4. Glue.
5. Close up you see small pieces, and far away they make one picture.

Triangle: Making a Picture from Broken Tiles

This passage · 114 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.2

1. A picture made from many tiny pieces.
2. A tessera.
3. The picture.
4. A thin layer of glue.
5. Close up you see small pieces, and from far away they blend into one picture.

Square: Making a Picture from Broken Tiles

Harder · 131 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 5.2

1. A picture assembled from many tiny pieces.
2. A tessera.
3. The picture.
4. A thin layer of glue.
5. Up close you see the little pieces, and from far away they blend into one large picture.