

## Paper Mache Pencil Tops: Inspired by Pacita Abad's "Abstract"

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Grade Level: Kindergarten



### Desired Learning Outcomes:

- Expose students to Pacita Abad (her life and work)
- Teach students about Abstract Art
- Experiment with patterns
- Experiment with blending colors
- Teach students how to create basic paper mache shapes

### Discussion:

- Explain the concept of Abstract Art
- Give students a background of Pacita Abad's life and work
- Discuss the colors and shapes that are present in Pacita Abad's artwork
- Explain the process of paper mache

### Materials:

- Unsharpened pencils
- Scratch paper
- Masking tape
- Powdered starch
- Acrylic Paint
- Sequins

- Scissors
- Glue
- Paint brushes

**Activity:**

This activity requires more than one session to finish, as paper mache takes about a day to dry. Part 1 deals with making the basic structure of the pencil top and Part 2 deals with painting it.

Part 1:

1. Distribute unsharpened pencils and scratch paper
2. Have students crumple paper and shape them around the top of the pencil into the shape that they choose. Hold together with masking tape. Children will need a bit of your attention and help in this step
3. Mix instant starch and water into a shallow dish (make sure the consistency is not too watery)
4. Cut up the paper into strips and have students dip them into the dish to coat the strips before applying it onto the pencil top
5. Make sure the entire surface of the pencil top is covered
6. Let dry (This takes about 24 hours)

Part 2:

1. Prime the pencil tops by painting a coat of white acrylic paint over the entire surface of the pencil tops
2. Let dry (this takes about 30 minutes)
3. Distribute the pencil tops when ready
4. Have students paint different patterns onto the tops, using Pacita Abad's artwork for reference
5. When dry, have them glue on the sequins for added effect.

