

Participate at CAMH

The work of artists Elizabeth Murray and Jessi Reaves, both have vibrant, organic shapes.

At CAMH, explore the exhibition and enjoy close looking at the works of art for shapes and patterns.

How many shapes do you see in one artwork?

How many patterns do you see in the exhibition?

What pieces of artwork remind you of shapes you find in your home?

Take your time and enjoy your visit.

Participate from home

Materials

- Paper plates
- Construction paper
- Yarn or String
- Drawing utensils
- Miscellaneous items for tracing
- Hole puncher
- Scissors
- Glue or Tape

Instructions

1. Explore Shapes

Search inside your home for household items that create interesting shapes you can trace, such as cups, keys, or small toys. Collect an assortment of items so your shapes will vary in size.

One by one, lay your items onto your construction paper, then trace shapes using the drawing utensil of your choice. Repeat shapes as well as create new shapes.

2. Make Patterns

Cut out each shape and lay them out across your workspace to create patterns. How many different shapes did you create? How many patterns did you create? Organize your patterns in the design you want to include on your mobile.

3. Create Mobile Structure

Cut out the center of one paper plate. Using your hole puncher, punch four equally spaced holes along the edge of the plate. Cut four, equally long pieces of yarn or string. Tie one end of each string into one hole each in your paper plate. Then, tie the four loose ends together to create the hanging point of your mobile structure. Using your drawing utensils, decorate your mobile structure and your shapes.

4. Create Hanging Pattern

Cut four long pieces of yarn or string. Place one piece of string between two shapes and glue or tape the two paper shapes back to back, securing the string in between. Repeat with each piece of string, creating patterns by pasting 2–3 complete shapes on each. Alternate the spacing and direction of your shapes as you attach them to create more variation in your design. Be sure to leave one end available to attach to your mobile structure.

5. Complete Mobile

Tie the loose end of each hanging pattern to a punched hole in your mobile structure—one string for each hole. Test your mobile by holding it up by the hanging point, allowing your shapes to fall towards the floor. Adjust the length or location of your hanging patterns as needed to complete your design.

6. Bonus Round

Add found objects to your mobile using small items around your home, such as buttons, flowers, pompoms.