



TOOLKIT: ARRANGING SPACE

THEME: SPACE

SUBJECT: VISUAL ART

ARTIST: KATHLEEN MONTGOMERY / YAYOI KUSAMA

GRADE: recommended 3rd-12th grade

OBJECTIVES

Students think about how the placement of objects in a space is important.

Students explore how objects relate to each other in a space

KEY QUESTIONS

1. How is your favorite room arranged? Why is it your favorite? How do you feel in that space?
2. Think of a room you don't like to be in very much. How is that room arranged?
3. Are the objects in those rooms in a certain place for a certain reason? Does moving those objects change how the room feels?

VISUAL REFERENCES

1. *Body Memory Architecture*, (2014) Kathleen Montgomery
2. *Repetitive Vision*, (1996) Yayoi Kusama

ACTIVITY

Think about your bedroom. What is inside it? A bed? A dresser? Are there pictures on the wall? A couch? A chair? Draw all of the objects that are in your room. On a piece of paper draw your room. Place the objects that you drew in your room, but in different places than they exist in reality. Do you think the mannequins in Yayoi Kusama's *Repetitive Vision* are placed in their positions on purpose? What about the objects in Kathleen Montgomery's *Body Memory Architecture*? Would it feel very different if some of the objects switched places? How does your room feel when you move the furniture or decorations around? Does it feel like a different space?

BONUS

Ask the students to rearrange the desks and chairs in the classroom in a new way. How does the new arrangement feel? Does it make it harder to pay attention to the teacher? Do you think the teacher has the desks set up in a certain way for a reason? Draw your ideal classroom. How are things arranged? Do you have desks? Where are the windows? Do you have couches or other furniture? Include lots of detail and share with the class why you made these choices.





PENNSYLVANIA CORE STANDARDS

VISUAL ARTS

(9.1.3.A-9.1.12.A)

-know and use the elements and principles of each art form to create works in the arts and humanities

(9.1.3.B-9.1.12.B)

-recognize, know, use and demonstrate a variety of appropriate arts elements and principles to produce, review and revise original works in the arts

(9.1.3.C-9.1.12.C)

-recognize and use fundamental vocabulary within each of the arts forms

(9.1.3.D-9.1.12.D)

-use knowledge of varied styles within each art form through a performance or exhibition of unique work

(9.1.3.E-9.1.12.E)

-demonstrate the ability to define objects, express emotions, illustrate an action or relate an experience through creation of works in the arts

