

# High Low Relief Sculpture

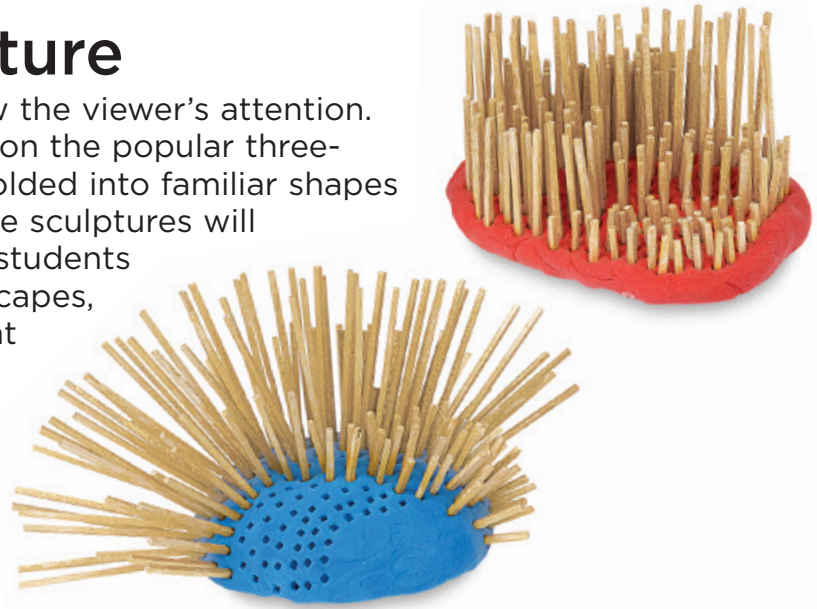
Small sculptures have great potential to draw the viewer's attention. This High-Low Relief Sculpture is a variation on the popular three-dimensional pin sculpture toy that can be molded into familiar shapes as pressure is applied from underneath. These sculptures will be stationary with a few other variations, as students use their imaginations to create rolling landscapes, faces, flowers or other images out of different lengths of colorfully painted craft picks.

## Grade Levels 4-6

*Note: instructions and materials based on a class of 25 students. Adjust as needed.*

## Process

1. Paint both sides of the craft picks with metallic paint and foam brushes. Move painted picks to smaller pieces of waxed paper to dry (approximately 10-15 minutes).
2. Distribute 1/3 of an 8-oz package of Model Magic to each student. Create a 3/4" thick sculpture base. The base can be flat or contoured.
3. Use the wide end of a craft pick to make 150 impressions in the base. Keep the impressions close together so that "high-low" relief patterns will emerge when the painted picks are inserted. Let the base dry (approximately 30 minutes).
4. Use a pencil to make a 3/4" mark on 25 of the picks, and a 1-1/4" mark on 25 more. Align a scissor blade with the pencil marks, and break picks in two (each student should now have 150 picks). Sort into piles by size.
5. Squeeze some glue onto a piece of paper. Lightly dab the broken ends of the picks into the glue and insert them into the holes in the base. Keeping the same size picks together will create interesting "high-low" relief patterns.



## Materials

Crayola® Model Magic®, assorted colors, 2-lb bucket (33214-0002); share two tubs across classroom

Crayola® Model Magic®, Black, 4-oz pkg, (33214-2004); share two packages across classroom

Craft Picks, pkg of 750 (60402-1750); share four packages across classroom

Sargent Art® Metallic Acrylics, 8-oz bottles, Gold (00730-9015) and Copper (00730-9505); one bottle each to share across classroom

Foam Brushes, (06041-0409); share one 40-piece set across classroom

Elmer's® Glue-All, 7-5/8 oz-oz bottle (23810-1005); share six bottles across classroom

Snippy Scissors, pointed (57040-2009), package of 12, need one pair per student

Blick® Plastic Ruler, (55403-1012); need one per student

Wax paper, 2 rolls

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## National Standards

Content Standard #1 — Understanding and applying media, techniques, and processes

**K-4** Students use different media, techniques, and processes to communicate ideas, experiences, and stories

**5-8** Students intentionally take advantage of the qualities and characteristics of art media, techniques, and processes to enhance communication of their experiences and ideas

Content Standard #2 — Using knowledge of structures and functions

**K-4** Students use visual structures and functions of art to communicate ideas

**5-8** Students employ organizational structures and analyze what makes them effective or not effective in the communication of ideas

