

GLASSELL **@home** on the GO



SECTION 1 Developing Craft

During this section, you will work on developing your craft by learning to use new and different artistic tools, materials, and techniques.

PROJECT 1 Geometric Abstraction with Sculpture

This activity will guide you in exploring the use of both lines and space to create a sculpture inspired by *Reticulárea Wall Appliqué* (shown above) by Venezuelan artist Gego (Gertrud Goldschmidt).

Above: Gego (Gertrud Goldschmidt), *Appliqué de Reticulárea (Reticulárea Wall Appliqué)*, 1969, iron and stainless steel wire, nylon, and lead weights, the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, museum purchase funded by the Caroline Wiess Law Accessions Endowment Fund, the 2007 Latin American Experience Gala and Auction, the Wortham Foundation, Jorge Raul, Vanessa J. Riley, Frank Ribelin, CITGO, and various donors in memory of Marisol Broido, 2009.22.
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Glassell-on-the-Go receives generous support from the Cockrell Family Fund.

All Learning and Interpretation programs at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, receive endowment funds provided by Louise Jarrett Moran Bequest; Caroline Wiess Law; the William Randolph Hearst Foundation; Cyvia and Melvyn Wolff; the National Endowment for the Humanities; the Fondren Foundation; BMC Software, Inc.; the Wallace Foundation; the Neal Myers and Ken Black Children's Art Fund; Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Ballard; Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Tate; the Eleanor and Frank Freed Foundation; Virginia and Ira Jackson; the Favrot Fund; Neiman Marcus Youth Arts Education; gifts in memory of John Wynne; and gifts in honor of Beth Schneider.

INVESTIGATE THE WORK OF ART!

1. A leading figure of Venezuelan abstraction, Gego was born in Hamburg, Germany, in 1912, and migrated to Venezuela, settling in Caracas in 1939. With a background in engineering and architecture, Gego often describes her artwork as “drawing without a pencil.” How does this sculpture resemble a drawing?
2. The shadows that this sculpture casts on the wall are considered a part of the artwork. What shape do the shadows make and how does the shadow interact with the artwork as a whole?
3. This sculpture juts out from the wall about two feet. How do the artwork's outward position and shape affect its meaning?

To view a hi-res image of the work, visit mfah.org/art and enter the artwork's title in the search bar.

LET'S MAKE SOME ART!

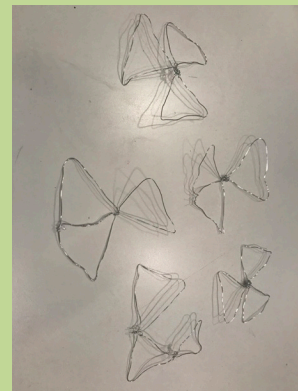
Gather These Art Materials

Items included in your kit:

- 5 pieces of aluminum craft wire (precut to 18 inches)
- 5 pieces of aluminum craft wire (precut to 2 inches)
- Scissors
- Regular pencil
- Sketch paper
- Note card

Items you may already have:

- Flashlight



STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS

1. Take one long piece of wire and shape the end of it into an equilateral triangle. Each side of the triangle should measure about 1.5 inches.
2. Shape a second triangle of the same size from the same piece of wire, and then continue on with a third. You should be able to make three triangles per piece of long wire.
3. Repeat these steps with each of the five long pieces of wire.
4. Join the five different pieces of your structure together. Here are two techniques to use for joining the sections together. You can use one or both techniques.
 - Use the 1-inch pieces of wire to connect two separate triangle sections together. Find the corner of a triangle and loop the small 1-inch wire around the corner and then again onto the corner of a second piece.
 - Loop a triangle from one section through a triangle of another section. Twist them firmly in the corner in order to secure the two separate triangles sections to each other.
5. Hang your sculpture on a tack or nail on the wall. It should jut outward from the wall by about 6–12 inches.
6. Observe the shadows your sculpture creates on the wall—these are a part of your artwork.
7. To amplify the shadows, shine a flashlight on your sculpture and look at the shadows it creates on the wall and the ceiling.
8. Sketch your sculpture on a piece of paper, paying attention to the different lines the sculpture's shadows create.
9. On the blank note card, take a moment and write four words that describe your sculpture.