

## THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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## EXPERIMENTAL THREE-DIMENSIONAL WORK BY CHILDREN TO GO ON VIEW

An exhibition of collages and constructions by children ranging from three to thirteen years will be on view in the Young People's Gallery at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, from April 5 through April 30. The work, which resulted from experiments at the People's Art Center, shows parents the importance of introducing this new technique to children. The experiments so far seem to indicate that the young child is perhaps more inclined to express himself in three dimensions than in two dimensions.

The collages in the exhibition were made by pasting various kinds of easily obtainable materials on a background to form a design. The constructions are three-dimensional arrangements in space. In some instances they are mobiles.

"The interest even very young children have in working in three-dimensional materials has been recognized as far as blocks and sand piles are concerned," says Victor D'Amico, Director of the Education Department at the Museum and head of the People's Art Center, "but too few parents and schools carry this interest and ability into the child's art work. The advantage of this new technique is that it stimulates the child's sense of design without the inhibitions of subject matter or other cliches that tend to assert themselves in painting."

The children show an interest in a wide variety of materials, some of which are supplied by the school, some brought from home. One four-year-old girl, for example, used a piece of clay, colored cellophane straws, glistening metal from a scouring pad, a paper lace doily and colored cellophane packaging from a fruit basket to construct an airy structure she named "Fairy Castle"

The examples of this technique selected from the People's Art Center indicate that this kind of art experience helps children to become aware of textures and patterns, to develop a sense of design and rhythm.

In order to encourage parents to introduce this medium at home the Museum has just put on sale collage boxes and collage and construction boxes containing a wide selection of materials.

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