INTERESTING ART PROJECTS: John T. Lemos

Grade 5-A Holiday Turkey

Objective: Motivation for work in drawing, coloring and construction.

Problem: This attractive turkey is made from a cereal box or ice cream container. His head and tail are made from heavy art paper. The cereal box is covered with thin brown art paper. A slit is cut in the box to hold the head and the tail is glued to the back of the box.

Application: The turkey can be so made that he will hold popcorn and nuts for the Christmas tree or he may be used as a centerpiece for a holiday luncheon table.

Grade 6—Handmade Holiday Cards

Objective: Training in composition, values and color schemes.

Problem: A simple winter scene or design is sketched on art construction paper in silhouette style. The part to remain black is cut out and pinned to black art paper. Different colors of tempera paint are then applied to the bristles of an ordinary small brush. This is then spattered onto the background of the design by pulling a knife blade backward over the brush. After the spattering is done, the stencil pattern is removed.

Application: Cards of this type when sent to friends make acceptable gifts because of their unique appearance.

Grade 7-Sculpture With Crayon

Objective: Training in third dimension projects. This problem gives splendid training in coordination of hand and eye.

Problem: The teacher should purchase some blocks of paraffin such as is used in preserving jelly. Melt two or three blocks in a stew pan and drop in one-third stick of any desired color of crayon. When still in liquid state the paraffin can be poured into cardboard show boxes or similar boxes to harden. The cardboard is then torn away from the paraffin, which can then be sawed into blocks for carving.

Application: By this plan a beautiful array of colored paraffin can be obtained. This can be readily cut with a pen knife into little carved figures of birds and animals.

Grade 8-Linoleum Block Printing

Objective: Development of ability to plan designs and to carry them out in some form of applied art.

Problem: Make several pencil sketches of simple holiday designs like these illustrated; these are made on thin paper. Paint the surface of a piece of linoleum with white tempera paint. When dry, trace design backwards onto linoleum. Cut out design with a penknife or linoleum tool leaving in relief the part that is to print. Paint the block with tempera paint into which a few drops of glycerine have been mixed. Print block by laying it on art paper and tapping the back with a hammer or mallet.

Application: Linoleum block designs are especially fine for holiday cards or book plates. They may be varied widely by using different color schemes.

