

Alexander Calder



Goldfish Bowl 1929

Wire

Private Collection

Artistic Emphasis

Alexander Calder (1898-1976) was one of the 20th century's most loved artists, appreciated for both his art and his exuberant, playful personality. He thought art should be fun – to create and to look at. His miniature circus, which he once carried around Paris in suitcases, is now a permanent installation at the Whitney Museum in New York. A consummate inventor, Calder first received a degree in Mechanical Engineering before deciding he wanted to be an artist. He almost always had a piece of wire in his pocket, and once said, "I think best in wire."

Project Description

Students explore the idea of using a line to describe three dimensional objects. They use a wire "line" to draw an object, but because wire is 3 dimensional, their object becomes a sculpture that will be seen from all sides.

Advance Preparation

- Schedule a date with your teacher. Remember to check the on-line calendar for conflicts first. _____
- One week prior to your date, check the Fine Arts supply room to make sure all the supplies are in the cabinet.
- The volunteer making the presentation should read through the handbook, located in the Fine Arts supply room, and become familiar with the project narrative and visuals.
- Recommended number of volunteers: 3