

Print Project: Photo Mosaic

Students will use recycled photographs to create a mosaic project out of cut images.

What is a mosaic?

Traditionally, a mosaic is a picture or pattern produced by arranging together small colored pieces of hard material, such as stone, tile, or glass.

Print Project Instructions:

Students will use printed photographs of their own (and their classmates) to create a mosaic backdrop and sentimental subject.

1. **Subject selection:** the subject matter chosen by each student should be more than a basic symbol (example: smiley face) or emoji. The subject matter must be pre-approved by the instructor before mosaic construction may begin.
2. **Mosaic backdrop creation:** the backdrop of each photo mosaic should be completed using 1" x 1" cut photo pieces. The photo mosaic pieces must be precisely measured and cut by each student using scissors. For the backdrop, students may choose to use a specific color scheme if they wish or they may select to use a more random approach so long as balance is achieved in the overall appearance of the backdrop when it is finished.
3. **Mosaic subject creation:** once the backdrop is completed, students will begin creating their selected subject matter into a mosaic; students will need to again use photo mosaic pieces that are 1" by 1" to create this part of their mosaic. Important note: in creating the subject matter, it may be necessary for a student to use smaller mosaic pieces in some parts of their subject. Also, in creating the mosaic subject, students will need to use specific colors so their subject matter looks accurate.
4. **Final mosaic assemblage:** when both the mosaic backdrop and subject matter are completed (and glue has dried), students will use stacked cardboard pieces to raise their mosaic subject off their mosaic backdrop -- see the instructor's example. A hot glue gun will be used to adhere cardboard pieces together and adhere the mosaic subject to the mosaic backdrop.

