

Fuse Bead Craft K-5

Objective: Students will choose a pixel drawing to recreate as a physical object with fuse beads.

Topics & Keywords for Discussion:

Pixel Art: a style of art inspired by the digital version of images composed of pixels.

Materials: graph paper CUT IN HALF, markers or colored pencils, fuse beads, peg boards, parchment paper, crafting mini-iron – STAFF USE ONLY!

Opening activity: I spy! 1 round of I spy, led by staff- hint, if the container of FUSE BEADS is OUT, one of those beads is a great item to “spy!”

Core Activity: Students will be making a shape using pixel art & graph paper, and then they'll recreate that as an object with FUSE BEADS! Distribute the PRE-CUT graph paper and the markers, and tell students they can place their pixel art under the pegboard to place the beads in the right spot! Start with just one object, students who are crafty and prepared may be able to create another object.

Once the peg board is finished and ready, students should bring it to staff and then go back to their drawings. Staff (see if you can get an assistant to support!) should be the only ones handling the iron. Place a piece of parchment paper over the beaded pegboard and do a few quick passes with the iron to see how much heat/time you need to melt the beads JUST ENOUGH to fuse them.

Reflection: Once the items are cooled, assemble them in a ‘pixel art gallery’ for students to LOOK but not touch! They can take their items home at the end of the day. Have a few student helpers sweep the leftover beads into small plastic bins on each table and empty the bins back into the bucket.

