

THE CHINATI FOUNDATION

MAKING SPACE: ARCHITECTURE AND MODEL MAKING



Grade Levels: Adaptable to K-12

Possible Materials

Cardboard, heavy cardstock, foam core board; recycled materials, such as cans, bottles, plastic containers; clay; paint, markers, crayons; glue, tape, scissors, wire.

Vocabulary and Definitions

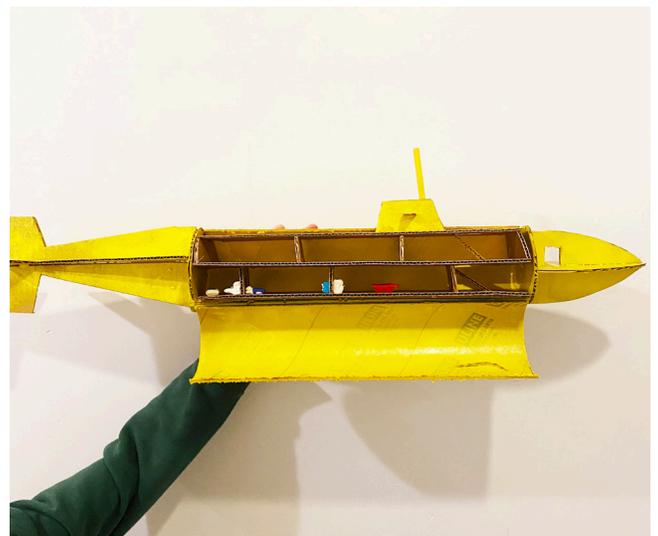
Architectural space: is the volume that inhabits the area between or among objects. Space is everywhere, but we become most aware of it when we have something either recognizable or concrete to define the edges.

Lesson Objectives

- To learn how an architectural model can aid in understanding and experiencing space.
- To contemplate how space is defined by walls, ceilings, openings, windows, objects, etc. and to discover how defining space may change our view of the world.
- To create a visual representation of the way we move through space in a design.
- To visually represent abstract ideas in a physical form.
- To play with designing a space that captures one's interests and that reflects one's personality!

Procedure and Prompts

1. After watching the video (<https://vimeo.com/412863434>), begin by thinking about different spaces and buildings you have been in, seen in pictures, on TV or in movies, or read about. What do you like about these spaces or buildings?
2. Now, think about a favorite passion or interest. Based upon an interest of your own, think about how you might design a space to live or spend time in that reflects that interest. For instance, if you love reading, what kind of space might you create that allows you to read all day? What if the space was shaped like a book? Where would all your books be placed within the space? Consider how you can pull elements of your passion and incorporate them into your space. What will the overall structure look like and how will it suit your tastes?
3. Create a few sketches of your space to plan out what you will make. What will the exterior, or outside, look like? What will the interior, or inside, look like? How many rooms will your space have? How big is the space?
4. Gather materials. What materials will you need to create your architectural model? Play with manipulating, or changing your materials. What materials will be used for each part of the model? How will you measure the various elements of your model? How will you attach each part together?
5. Once you have built your model, try placing some items inside. What objects will exist in your space? How do these objects connect to the overall theme, or design, of your space?



Reflection

When you are done creating your model, reflect on your experience making it. What was challenging? What are you most proud of? How did your plans change from the original sketch to the final model? If you could, how would you expand your model?

For fun, write a story about what it might be like if you could inhabit your space! What would you do in your space? Where would your space exist in the world (would it even exist on land or on this planet)?

Brainstorm and Sketch!

Use the space below to brainstorm and sketch your model before putting it together.