

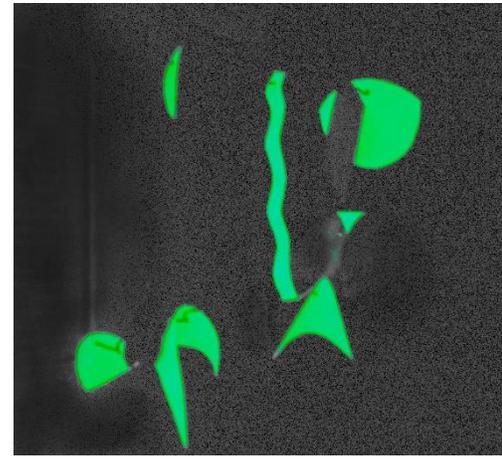


MUSEUM FROM HOME

February 12, 2021

LINE & ARC MOBILES

Our 2021 ANTIGRAVITY Artist, Elaine K. Ng, created a huge mobile-like installation called *a circle, a line, an arc*, for The Rockwell Museum's entryway rotunda. Learn to make an art project inspired by her work.



Look!

This is a view looking up at the *installation* (a type of sculpture that does not stand on its own) as if you were lying on the floor underneath it. Notice how it almost looks like it's swirling around and in motion. The neat thing about mobiles or hanging installations like *a circle, a line, an arc* is that they are artworks that are in motion!

What would you call the shapes that you see? Notice how some are hollow and some have fabric, and some are larger than others.

The lights shining through are part of the building. Elaine used the existing structure to make her sculpture more interesting.

Learn!

Elaine K. Ng created this artwork specifically for this exact place in The Rockwell Museum. We call this type of artwork a *site-specific* installation. Think about the place you would like to hang your mobile. What would look best in that spot? Notice that even though the shapes are different – some are dark, some are light, some are hollow, some have fabric, they are different sizes – they are all the same shape and all point in the same direction. The artist is interested in pattern.



Do!

Elaine's installation uses the walls of The Rockwell Museum, but your mobile will hang on its own. (And yours will glow in the dark!)

Supplies:

- 3 pre-cut colored wires: 2 long, one shorter
- Pre-cut thin silver wire (you can cut this with scissors to the lengths you need, as shown in the picture)
- Glow-in-the-dark shapes
- Felt shapes
- Wooden shapes
- Swivel hook



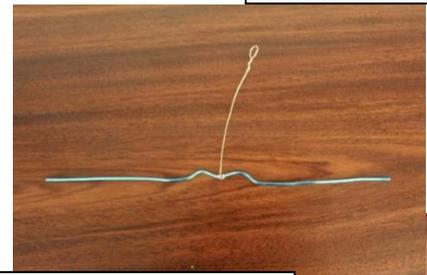
You have glow in the dark and felt shapes. The glow in the dark shapes are heavier. Keep that in mind for balance! Both materials can be cut with scissors if you want to make your own shapes.

Directions:

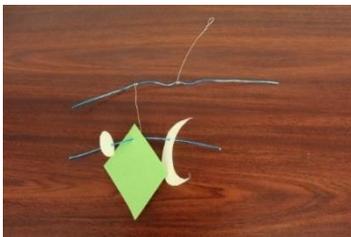
1. The most important thing we will be trying to do is getting your mobile to be **balanced**. Plan out your mobile first! Shapes of similar sizes will balance each other on the same wire.
2. Cut your silver wire (ask a grown up for help; it should cut with regular scissors) into three different lengths.
3. Once you are happy with how your mobile is laid out, you can begin building it! First, loop one silver wire around the bottom of your swivel hook and secure tightly.
4. Decide what color and length to make your first layer of wire. Twist the open end of the silver wire around the middle of the colored length of wire. Bend or loop to secure it.
5. Thread your shapes onto the colored wire. Twist the colored wire into a little loop or bend it so that the shapes don't slip off.
6. Repeat step 5 to set up your second layer and third layers, using the silver wire to attach them to each other.
7. Pick up your mobile and test how it balances! Ask a family member to hold it from the hook while you adjust your shapes. Remember when choosing where to hang that it will glow in the dark – pick somewhere it will get dark enough to glow!



Step 3 – bend wire into a loop. Twist tightly!



Step 4 – attach one thick wire. Looping the wire through will ensure it stays!



5-6. Attach the second layer and your shapes. Attach wood shapes by looping the wire. (It won't fit through the small pre-drilled hole!)