

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. E-mail Sara sara@kurensky.org and Julie jageyer@sbcglobal.net with the new date so they can post it on-line.
- 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