

# Shrink Plastic Skateboards

## Key words:

Scale, proportion, craftsmanship, visual language, sculpture, identity, artistic process

## Materials:

Shrink Plastic: Grafix Shrink Film- sanded 8.5x11" Pack of 50

<https://a.co/d/2pHcmzL>

Skateboard trucks and wheels:

- Cheaper to buy a bulk order of mini boards and steal the wheels

<https://a.co/d/3YVHGGH>

ultra-fine Sharpie

Color Pencil (gets more vibrant after shrinking process)

Thumbnail sketch handout

Final Draft handout

Scissors

Ruler

Tape

\*Interest chart (I give kids a 2-page self-interest chart at the start of the semester, so they always have a place to pull ideas from)

Toaster Oven

Flat pans

Parchment paper

Small spatula

Oven Mitts

Hot glue

Glue gun

## Discussion points:

What is SCALE in art?

What is proportion in art? \*if you have a membership to Art of Education they have a short proportion video

What is identity?

**Artists:**

Ron Mueck (oversized masks)

Claes Oldenburg (oversized sculptures)

Salavat Fidai (miniature carvings)

Mounir Fatmi (skateboard sculpture installations)

Teacher Prep:

Print out thumbnail sketch handout

Print out final template handout

Cut shrink plastic paper down to size for student use (cuts back on waste)

Make a "SHRINK MAGIC" station (put toaster oven, pans, parchment paper, oven mitts, spatula in this area)

Take wheels off bulk purchased skateboards (the kids LOVE to help with this)

Gather sharpies, scissors, tape, and color pencils for student use

**What is Shrink Plastic?**

Shrinky Dinks were introduced in the 70s

Clear plastic that shrinks about 50% with heat- changing SCALE but not PROPORTION. The particles get closer together so the size of the plastic shrinks, but the piece gets thicker.

Technical term is polystyrene! Same stuff that takeout containers are made of (plastic #6)

**Steps:**

- 1) Thumbnail sketches- draw 8 different designs on thumbnail template- each one showing something about your identity
- 2) PICK ONE- draw it on your final design template handout. Use your best craftsmanship- will be tracing this onto shrink plastic
- 3) Tape plastic (sanded side up) to final template- TRACE design and outline of board with ultra-fine sharpie.
- 4) Color with color pencil (remember to color ALL areas)
- 5) Cut out
- 6) Follow the directions that came with your shrink plastic to shrink down (Have the kids watch the process- they can oversee the shrink plastic process and let you know when it is time to take it out)
- 7) Hot glue wheels
- 8) Photograph projects (I display photos of 3D work on my board in the hall so pieces don't get broken)
- 9) Give the skateboards back!

**Extension activity:**

Break the class up into 4 or 5 groups.

Put a pile of recycled plastic and other recycled parts out for student use.

Have groups spend 1 day working together to design skatepark and develop roles within the group

Spend 2-3 days creating the skate parks





