Zentangle Art Activity Inspired by the Work of Eddie Dominguez

Zentangle is the art of drawing designs using structured patterns. The goal of the activity is to relax the mind and create a state of focus that is free-flowing and natural in order to allow creativity to manifest. This art activity can be done with a variety of supplies as well as simply with a pencil and the template provided. Take a moment to study RAM’s permanent collection artist Eddie Dominguez and his metal work entitled, Fish Dinner. Observe and gather inspiration from the lines, patterns, and designs that the artist incorporates into his composition.

You can watch a demo of this activity online at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=566bDT3QKhQ

Eddie Dominguez
Fish Dinner, 1987
Glazed whiteware, copper, and wood
Various dimensions
Racine Art Museum, Gift of Donna Moog
Photography: Jon Bolton

Supplies
- Fish template (page 4)
- Pencil
- Black sharpie
- Coloring tools: markers, colored pencils, or crayons
- Scissors
- Extra construction paper
- Glue
Instructions

1. Print out the fish template provided on page 4.
2. Use a pencil to draw strings inside of the fish. Strings are lines that divide the shape of the fish into individual sections.
3. Choose a section to start with, and fill it in with a repetitive and unique pattern.
4. Trace your lines with a black sharpie or marker to create bolder designs.
5. Once you’ve completed one section, move on to another with a different pattern.
6. Continue steps 3 and 4 until all the sections are complete.
7. Use coloring tools to fill the patterns in with color.
8. Cut the completed fish out with scissors.

9. Accordion fold a small strip of paper.

3. Glue one side of the accordion fold onto the background paper.

4. Glue the opposite side of that accordion fold onto each fish and watch your zentangle come to life!