

Artists at Work





Talk About It

This artist is creating a large picture on a sidewalk. Where do you see artists at work in your community?



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SECONDHAND ART

by David Walcott

Vocabulary

skyscrapers strutting
collage flicked
barbecue swarms
glorious



Context Clues

Descriptions can help you figure out the meaning of unfamiliar words. Use the description words in the story to figure out what the word *collage* means.

Danny and Emma decided to enter the school art contest. Today they are working together on their project. The problem is, they can't decide what to make.

"Danny, maybe we should make models of modern **skyscrapers**. Mr. Buckle said, 'The sky's the limit.'" Danny and Emma laughed.

"Seriously," said Danny, "how about making a **collage** out of pictures we cut from magazines?"

"We could," said Emma, "but I'll bet a lot of kids will make collages. Let's try to do something different."



Danny's mom walked into the kitchen. She reminded Danny to put the recycling bin in her car. Danny's eyes lit up.

"I've got it!" he said. "Mr. Buckle is always talking about taking care of the Earth. Let's make our project out of that stuff!"

"Great idea," agreed Emma.

They got right to work. There were tons of aluminum cans from last week's outdoor hamburger and hot dog **barbecue**.

They used empty plastic bottles and jars, and cardboard. They cut up strips of newspaper to make papier-mâché. Finally, Danny and Emma were ready to paint.

"Let's use bright yellow," Emma suggested. "It's such a **glorious** color, isn't it?"

Danny giggled. "You're so dramatic, Emma."

He started **strutting** around the room. "Yellow is such a *glorious* color," he said, teasing Emma. Emma **flicked** her paintbrush at Danny.

The next day, Danny and Emma presented their art project. Everyone loved it, especially Mr. Buckle. Danny and Emma won first prize. **Swarms** of people came up to congratulate them.

"Who knew recycling could be so much fun?" said Emma.

"The best part was that I didn't have to haul everything into Mom's car," said Danny with a grin.



Reread for Comprehension



Monitor Comprehension

Character To monitor your comprehension of characters, think about their traits, or the long-lasting parts of their personalities. Thinking about a character's traits will help you understand why a character does or says things and what he or she might do next.

A Character Web will help you gather information about a character's traits. Reread the story to find examples of Emma's traits.

