

DESCRIPTION:

This visual arts activity explores how the ancient Greeks shared stories and recorded history through painted scenes on various forms of pottery.

RECOMMENDED AGE(S):

1st to 6th grade

TIME TO COMPLETE:

The initial creation of the vase shape, coloring it in, and then painting over it takes approximately 15 minutes. The time it takes the paint to dry will vary, as will the actual decorating of the vase. It can be a quick exercise or can take a decent amount of time depending on the intricacy the scenes/patterns.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- ▶ A large sheet of paper (*white or at least very light in color; sturdier paper than printer paper is preferable*)
- ▶ Scissors
- ▶ A pencil
- ▶ Warm colored crayons (yellows, oranges, reds, etc.)
- ▶ A flat foam brush
- ▶ Black acrylic or tempura paint
- ▶ Wooden styluses (*or the end of a paperclip or a finely tipped paintbrush*)



WHAT YOU DO:

1. Fold a large piece of paper in half; on the fold, create the shape of your vase.
2. Keep the paper folded and cut along the drawn shape of the vase.
3. Color in the vase with warm colored crayons (reflecting the color of traditional Greek pottery); color it in with some pressure, creating a thick layer of wax.
4. Paint over the entire vase with black tempura or acrylic paint using a flat foam brush to get an even coat.
5. Once the paint is completely dry, use your chosen "scratch" tool to scratch patterns and designs onto your vase. To visually create something similar to authentic Greek pottery, try creating bands of patterns along the top and bottom of your vase and then fill in the widest portion in the center with a specific scene or image.



HOW YOU CAN SHARE:

Remember to take a pic of your creation and share it via our social media, which is at the bottom of this page, and tag it **#artworksanywhere**.

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