

## Development of Creative Abilities of Middle School Students Through Work in a Mosaic Circle and Mosaic Work

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**Annotation:** *The oldest mosaic is made of fired clay cones, deeply pressed into the wall and covered with multi-colored glaze. It is an interweaving of different geometric patterns and has been perfectly preserved to this day. A teenager through his own mental anguish enriches the sphere of his feelings and thoughts; he goes through a difficult school of identification with himself and with others, for the first time mastering the experience of purposeful isolation. All this helps him to defend his right to be a person. Studying at school or in a college occupies a large place in the life of a teenager. The positive here is the adolescent's readiness for those types of learning activities that make him more mature in his own eyes.*

**Keywords:** *mosaic/ art/ teenager/ creative activity/ angle/ smalt/ laying technology/ teacher.*

Pottery originated in the Neolithic era (V-III millennium BC), when people discovered the unique properties of clay. It turned out that this natural material has a relatively low weight, is easy to process, does not let moisture through after drying, and becomes hard as a result of firing. In addition, clay was more readily available than nutshells and shells.

Initially, all dishes were made only by hand. And at the end of the IV millennium BC. the potter's wheel appeared and began to be additionally used. Each representative of the profession used his own production technology and put a brand on the products - an analogue of a modern trademark.

Mosaic is an arts and crafts (related to an art form that has a dual function: aesthetic pleasure and utilitarian, practical) and monumental (large format and associated with architecture or interior) art.

Having come to work at a school, a technology teacher is faced not only with the problems of effective organization of the educational process, but also with the organization of extracurricular work in his subject.

The teacher must understand: it is he who is responsible for how the creative potential is realized, which, in principle, each of his students has, and how the psychological and practical readiness for active independent creative activity will be formed.

The task of extracurricular work is to involve students in socially useful activities, stimulate their initiative and independence, and develop individual interests, inclinations and abilities.

Extra-curricular work is an organic part of the entire teaching and educational activities of the school. It is a continuation and development of the process carried out in the classroom, and is subordinated to the general educational tasks.

Mankind has come to the point where activities are evaluated primarily by their social, environmental, economic and other consequences.

In the theory of architectural composition - an inside view of an object, as opposed to the concept of an exterior - an outside view of a building, structure. Accordingly: plan - top view, ceiling - bottom-up view, facade - front, rear, side view, angle - view from the corner. In a narrower sense, the interior is the composition of the internal space of the building with elements of the environment of the object-spatial environment. In other formulations: architectural and artistic design of the interior space of the building.

Mosaic is the art of creating a whole picture from many small individual pieces.

Separately, it should be said about the circles, where the technology teacher has a wide range of opportunities in shaping schoolchildren's interest in inventive, rationalization and creative activities. It is extracurricular work with schoolchildren that can successfully cultivate those qualities without which a creative person cannot take place, and purposefully develop the skills of rational thinking.

In the extracurricular activities of a technology teacher, great opportunities can be laid for the implementation of both educational, and developing, and forming an active life position of schoolchildren tasks. That is why this side of the daily work of the school teacher of labor training must be given priority attention as the main component of the humanistic educational system.

Mosaic is at the same time a painstaking work that requires great patience from the performer, and a unique art that arouses admiration. Despite the wide variety of materials used, there are only 2 main ways of laying mosaic elements: direct and reverse. With the direct method, the master glues the mosaic pieces directly onto the prepared base. This laying technology was invented a long time ago and has remained virtually unchanged for many millennia. It is indispensable when creating author's artistic mosaic compositions.

The reverse laying method became widespread only in the twentieth century. Its essence lies in the fact that the mosaic elements are first glued to the paper sheet with the front side, and then the resulting canvas is attached to the base with the reverse side. This method is often used by master builders to speed up and simplify the process of decorating walls during repairs as much as possible.

Mosaic panels and paintings must be not only durable, but also resistant to temperature and humidity changes. Therefore, most often masters use the following materials for making mosaics: ceramics; smalt; a natural stone; beads; clam shells; metal. Smalt is pieces of colored glass made using a special technology with the addition of mineral dyes. Depending on the type of additives, it can be transparent or matte, and also have one or more shades.

The history of mosaics is deeply rooted in ancient times. The earliest examples of masterpieces of this technique were found on the territory of modern Iraq, in the lower reaches of the Euphrates River, they date back to the second half of the fourth millennium BC.

At that time, the city of Ur, belonging to the Sumerian civilization, was located here. The oldest mosaic is made of fired clay cones, deeply pressed into the wall and covered with multi-colored glaze. It is an interweaving of different geometric patterns and has been perfectly preserved to this day.

By the 8th century BC, the masters of Ancient Greece learned how to create an ornamental mosaic from raw sea pebbles, and after another 500 years in Hellas they invented the technology for making smalt. The first mosaic panels in the form of narrative compositions on mythological themes date back

to the third century BC. And the world-famous mosaic panel “Battle of Alexander the Great with Darius”, according to the calculations of historians, was created around 125-120 BC.

The ancient Romans not only adopted the art of mosaic from the Greeks, but also significantly expanded the scope of its application. Already by the second century BC, mosaic paintings became an integral part of the interior decoration of imperial palaces, houses of the nobility and public baths. The floors, ceilings and walls were decorated with artistic compositions depicting people, animals and gods, as well as all sorts of ornaments and patterns.

After the fall of Rome under the onslaught of the barbarians in the 5th century, the Byzantine Empire became the center of European mosaic craft for many centuries. Here, with the recognition of Christianity as the main state religion, the mosaic again acquired the status of high art. Its scope was gradually reduced only to the design of the interior decoration of temples.

At the beginning of the 11th century, Byzantine mosaics penetrated Kievan Rus. Greek and Russian craftsmen jointly created unique frescoes and mosaic panels that still adorn the walls of St. Sophia Cathedral. Unfortunately, over the next century, fresco painting almost completely replaced mosaics not only in Eastern, but also in Western Europe.

In the Islamic world, attitudes towards mosaics have always been ambiguous. Although the rulers of the East always sought to exquisitely decorate their palaces and spared no expense on the work of skilled mosaic masters, they still had to comply with the strict rules of the Koran, which forbid the creation of artistic images of people and animals. In the countries of the Near and Middle East, mosaic art existed only until the era of the Arab conquests, and already from the 8th century it completely disappeared.

Interest in mosaics in Europe briefly revived in the 16th century during the Baroque era. In those days, mosaic panels, created on the basis of paintings by great masters, again began to decorate the decoration of many churches, including the interior of the grandiose St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican, the main church of Catholics. But by the end of the next century, the fashion for mosaics in Europe had finally passed.

In Russia, in the middle of the 18th century, Mikhail Vasilievich Lomonosov took up the art of mosaic seriously. The ingenious scientist developed more than 100 unique samples of smalt and in every possible way contributed to the development of the ancient craft. Lomonosov passionately set about creating a cycle of 17 mosaic paintings describing the life of Peter I for the Peter and Paul Cathedral. But Catherine II categorically did not like the first picture of the master “The Battle of Poltava”, and the idea of reviving the mosaic quickly came to naught.

For the decorative design of monotonous constructed buildings and structures, it was decided to use mosaics. Hundreds of artists were involved in the execution of the grandiose task, who wrote thousands of projects for paintings glorifying life in the USSR. These works formed the basis of mosaic panels that adorned the exteriors of residential buildings, palaces of culture and sports, railway stations, department stores and other buildings. Many of them can still be found on the streets and squares of the former Union.

These days, artists rarely choose mosaics as their primary art medium. But no one prevents us from enjoying the beauty of masterpieces created by skilled craftsmen from different historical eras in different parts of the Earth.

For a long time, pottery was considered a family business: fathers passed on their knowledge only to their sons. However, later the masters realized the inefficiency of this approach. They began to teach their profession to students, which led to the spread of pottery and the formation of guilds (trading groups consisting of 10-15 people).

Today, the profession of a potter is still relevant. It includes 5 categories: from the 2nd to the 6th. The higher the qualification of the master, the wider the scope of his duties in production and the higher the salary. For example, a potter of the 6th category is busy with the following things:

- weighs and pours clay into molds;
- kneads the material;
- carries out pressing and molding of future products;
- selects solutions for artistic painting;
- prepares the surface of objects for engraving and etching patterns;
- dries molded products with finishing dimensions;
- burns clay in a kiln;
- applies glaze, paint, decorative elements;
- maintain pottery equipment and tools in working condition;
- Checks the quality of finished products.

A novice specialist of the 2nd or 3rd category performs mainly routine operations under the supervision of an experienced professional. Although today most potters work for themselves and are solely responsible for all stages of production.

Pottery will continue to be a sought-after profession for a long time to come. It is unprofitable for large factories to produce original products from clay and ceramics with complex elements, so this market niche will remain with artisans. However, competition in pottery is growing. Today, to be successful in the profession, it is not enough for a novice potter to have only artistic talent.

Only a person with a certain temperament can become a successful potter. The following qualities are important in this profession:

perseverance;

- patience;
- accuracy;
- developed motor skills of hands;
- artistic taste;
- Spatial thinking.

In addition, the master is often forced to work in poor lighting and breathe dry, dusty air. Therefore, good health in pottery does not hurt.

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