



OGDEN MUSEUM
OF SOUTHERN ART

O-riginal Art Activity:

Popsicle Treehouse Inspired by Jeffrey Cook



Jeffrey Cook, *The Rocking TreeHouse*, 2015, Mixed media

Jeffrey Cook was born in New Orleans in 1961. He attended McDonogh 35 High School before studying under John Scott and Martin Payton at Xavier University. He furthered his studies at the San Francisco Art Institute. While in California, he became Principal Dancer for the Los Angeles Repertory Company. In the mid-80s, Cook returned to New Orleans. He was an artist closely tied to the history and mission of the Ogden Museum of Southern Art. Cook was one of the first educators in the Museum's Artist and Sense of Place Residency program. During construction of the Museum's main building, Jeffrey Cook and Roger Ogden symbolically hammered in the first nail to hang the first painting.

Create a tree house from popsicle sticks and found objects.

Supplies

Popsicle Sticks, and other found objects, Glue, Cardboard boxes.

Instructions

Step 1: What is your dream treehouse? How tall is it? Does it reach to the top of the trees and touch the sky? What shape is it? Is it shaped like Jeffrey Cook's treehouse or will it be an organic shape? Start by laying out your popsicle sticks in the formation of a treehouse. Use scissors to cut out a base for your treehouse from the cardboard.

Step 2: Use scissors to cut another piece of cardboard into strips to add to the popsicle stick formation.

Step 3: Think about how you want to arrange your strips of cardboard and popsicle sticks on the backboard. Try different arrangements, what pattern and lines are you creating? Try adding depth by layering the pieces.

Step 4: Once you have decided on your composition, ask an adult to help you use hot glue to secure the pieces to the backboard. If you don't have hot glue, white glue or tape can be substituted.

Vocabulary

Found Object – a thing that someone else has given or thrown away that is often repurposed by artists

Sculpture – an artwork made from materials such as glass, wood, clay, metal that is 3D

SEE JEFFREY COOK'S ARTWORK IN BUILT: SCULPTURAL ART FROM THE PERMANENT COLLECTION AT OGDEN MUSEUM.

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