

Light Up Tiles

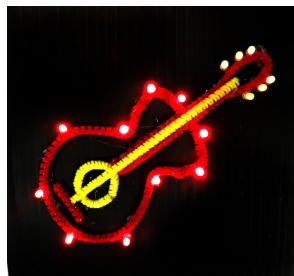
Tools, materials, technologies used:	Experience level required:
craft tools (scissors, exacto knife), magnets	Beginner
cardboard, corrugated plastic magnetic backing board	Beginner
copper tape, LEDs, battery or plug-in power source	Beginner

Grade level (of this example): 4-12

Content Standards (of this example): See below for possible content explorations

Summary of project:

Students will create a design that includes a light-up LED feature, based on criteria designated by the teacher. They will use their chosen materials along with LEDs and copper tape to utilize light in a way that complements the design. They can work individually to prepare their tile for presentation. For presentation, all tiles can be arranged as a mosaic to display.

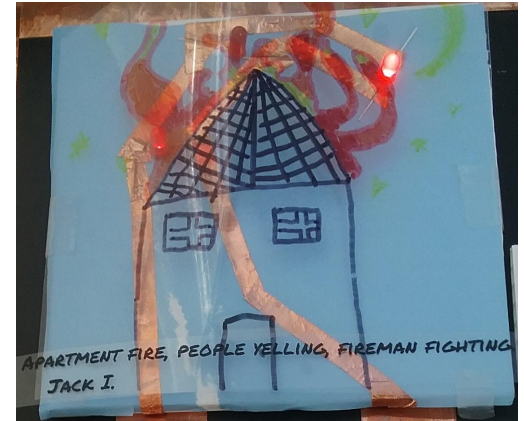


Possible Content Explorations:

ELA

- **narrative writing** - students can use a tile to illustrate a brief autobiographical story.

Example at right comes from Blake Middle School in Medfield, MA - a joint venture of ELA, Art, and the school Makerspace. Kathleen Caprio launched her 6th grade narrative writing unit by giving her students a simple exercise: in just six words, tell a story from your real life. Students each wrote ten six-word vignettes, then chose one they wanted to illustrate. They spent the next several class periods designing, illustrating, and building their stories into a light-up display board, with support from art teacher Nancy Deveno and Technology Integration Specialist Diane Horvath in the Makerspace.



One student described her experience as not only fun, but as something that “really helped” the class write out subsequent long-form autobiographies, “because they were already drawn out” and visualized.