

RE-COMPOSITION ACTIVITY

Materials needed/recommended:

Construction paper (assorted colors)

Scissors

Ribbon (any color)

Pencils

Markers

Crayons

Tape

Timing:

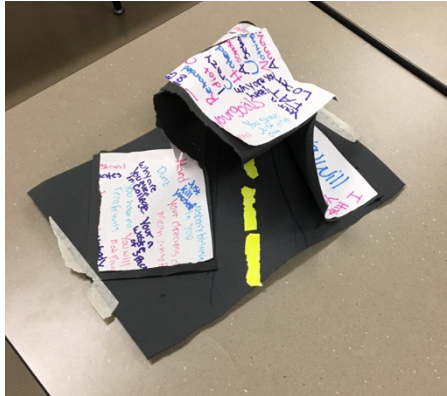
This activity works well on the day students submit their Project Three: Multimodal projects. I find that many are tired at this point in the semester and could use some recharged positivity in a way that's also a multimodal transformation.

Activity description:

1. Have students select a piece of paper and writing utensil(s). Instruct them to write or draw their current frustrations about writing or college generally on the piece of paper. I typically give 15 minutes for this segment.
2. After students have deposited their frustrations and negativity on the paper, I ask them to transform or re-compose the paper into something beautiful. Some examples of transformed pieces include paper airplanes, origami figures, flowers, butterflies, snowflakes, positive words cut out of the negative paper, etc.
3. Once they are finished, they take a piece of masking tape and hang their recharged work on the wall. I provide 30 minutes for this transformation work.
4. Finally, once all students have hung their work, we do a gallery walk, come up with captions for a couple of the pieces, and share our ideas. (Examples: "Writing in bloom," "Bridge over troubled writing," etc.)

The primary focus of this activity is to do some cathartic releasing of negative thoughts and creatively redirect that energy into a positive, tangible artifact.

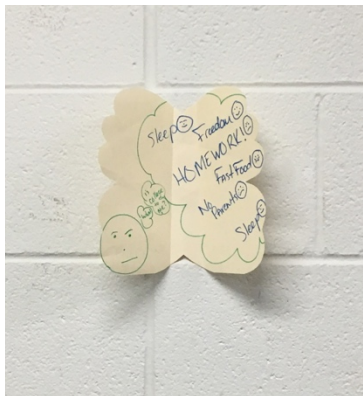
Examples of student work:



Bridge



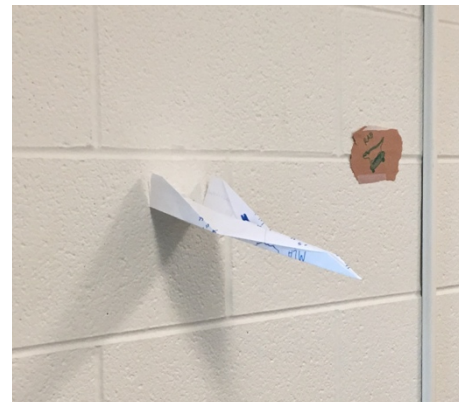
Flowers



Butterfly



Origami box



Paper airplane