

GAME PLAY

Participants are given a set of LACE cards, that are divided into 5 categories. Every deck of cards include cards with the topic and four categories that include elements of visual design and have been grouped with the land art card game. The 5 groups of cards are :

CARD # 1 TOPIC
CARD # 2 SPACE
CARD # 3 COLOR AND TONE
CARD # 4 TEXTURE ELEMENTS OF NATURE
CARD # 5 LINE SHAPE AND FORM

Participants draw from each of the 5 categories 1 card each. Each participant should now have 5 cards in hand.

Besides the colours each card on the bag has a number which indicates the steps to which card to use first. The gameplay is then broken down into 3 phases.

The first phase uses card #1
The second phase uses #2
Third phase # 3 # 4 and # 5

NOTE FOR FACILITATOR:

The instructions for gameplay you can also give out all at once since perhaps you will have more groups and they will be scattered over an area of land. If you have only one group that you will follow and work with them, then you can give the instructions step by step.

NOTE: If you have a group of 5, when they all put down their cards #3 and #4 there will be 10 cards on the ground, tell them they can also decide which colours or elements they want to search for. Also keep in mind, that in your territory perhaps some elements will be impossible to find, for example, sand if you are in a forest.

After coming back from gathering materials they will work with, they are ready to start making their land art masterpiece and go on to the following step.

Participants put the final card #5 on the ground.

Card #5 gives participants suggestions on how to use the line. One of the most basic visual elements of design is the line which should not be underestimated. As simple as lines are they can be quite versatile and crucial elements of design. Lines can be straight, curved, thick, solid or dashed. Card #5 also, gives participants a choice, but also think about whether their land art will take the form of a two-dimensional or 3-D object. Will they apply shapes that can be for example, drawn on the ground or will they apply form and form 3D objects, or even both?

Now it is creation time and participants can have from 30 minutes up to one hour to create their work, depending on how complex and how they divide their roles.

Once everyone has finished, gather up the entire group (in case you are working with a few smaller groups). Go around and showcase your work, have each group present their work to the other and have an outdoor exhibition.

PHASE 1

All participants put their card #1 on the ground, which indicates the topic. They will now have to discuss among themselves which topic they want to address and depict through their land artwork. Participants are encouraged to choose a topic they are passionate about amongst the cards they are given.

PHASE 2

Once the participants have the chosen topic they will all put on the ground card #2, which indicates the space. The cards will give suggestions and ideas. They can consider all suggestions or just one or two. Give participants up to 30 minutes to walk around and find their space. Once they have found their perfect spot they can continue to the phase number tree.

PHASE 3

All participants in the group now put on the ground their cards #3 and #4. These cards indicate the colour, texture and natural elements that participants will go out and find. Give them up to 30 minutes for this task.

INSTRUCTIONS

LACE CARDS

GAME SETUP FOR FACILITATOR

Find an area where you will play and define the area's boundaries (for example: we use the area to the woods).

Scavenge the area, make sure it is safe and that no one can get lost or hurt.

Try to find a natural area with a diversity of trees, stones, water etc.

Try to find perhaps a rural area that needs attention, cleanup, an area that can benefit from beautiful land art and bring communities together.

GAME INFO

The game is run by a facilitator who initially introduces all rules to all participants.

DURATION:

3-4 hours (depending on the process).

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS:

4 to 6 to a deck of cards.

1 deck can be used by up to 8 people; if you have more participants you need more decks.

MATERIAL:

Deck of LACE playing cards, trash bag so participants can also pick up trash along the way and clean nature, optional are cutting scissors for twigs or hammer and gloves.

CONCLUSION AND REFLECTION

For the finish, gather your big or small group in a circle around one of the land artworks. It can take up to 1 hour to do the reflection phase.

Questions you can ask the group for reflection:

How did you decide on the space you want to create your land artwork? Why did you choose that space?

How did you divide the work in your team?

What did you want your land art to represent?

How do you feel about the fact that this art piece will not last and that nature will slowly take it apart?

Do you think this method can be helpful for rural engagement with young people?

What aspects of land art might inspire you to take a more active role in your community?

How can land art be used as a tool to raise awareness about issues important to your community?

How does participating in land art make you feel about your ability to contribute to positive change in your community?

How does the impermanence of land art influence your thoughts on the importance of community engagement?

What local stories, traditions, or histories could be highlighted through land art, and how might that affect community pride and engagement?

How can land art projects be designed to include and attract diverse groups within the community?

How can land art be used in activism?

What issues would you address with land art?

How would you involve other groups of people in the local environment, not only young people, in land art?

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW AS A YOUTH WORKER

Even though the concept of this game is to be played outdoors and involves participants picking out cards and using them as a guide to building their land art, as youth workers we need to prepare for this activity to have a full effect.

The game aims to encourage civic engagement of young people in rural areas by introducing a nature-based creative artistic method of using land art. Land art is made directly in the landscape by sculpting the land itself or by creating structures in the landscape with natural materials.

Side note: If you are playing the game with a group of people who do not know each other well, we suggest at least 1h of group bonding activity beforehand, making the activity easier and smoother.

LAND ART & ACTIVISM

Land art can be a powerful activist tool by using natural landscapes to create visually striking messages that draw attention to important social and environmental issues. For example, large-scale installations made from rocks, plants, or other natural materials can highlight the impact of climate change or deforestation, creating awareness in a public, outdoor space. The impermanence of land art can also symbolize the urgency of addressing issues before it's too late. By involving communities in the creation of these pieces, land art can foster collective action and ownership of the causes it represents. Additionally, because land art is often site-specific, it can directly connect the message to the local environment or community, making the activism more relevant and impactful.

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WHAT IS LAND ART?

Land art is made directly in the landscape by sculpting the land itself or by making structures in the landscape with natural materials. Land art, also known as earth art, was part of the wider conceptual art movement in the 1960s and 1970s. It was established by a group of pioneering artists who investigated natural sites, alternative modes of artistic production, and ways to circumvent the commercial art system.



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