Negative and Positive Space Lesson Plan

Materials:
- 9” x 12” sheets of construction paper of two contrasting colors per student.
- Scissors
- Glue
- Adaptations – pre-cut contrasting 9” x 6” construction paper, pre-cut templates of various shapes

Objectives:
- Develop/increase awareness of shape and space
- Introduce students to the concepts of negative and positive space.

Procedure:
- Describe (define) the two kinds of space: positive and negative
- Select one color of construction paper and cut to 9” x 6” (adaptations – provide pre-cut paper for students)
- Select contrasting 18” x 12” color of construction paper
- Using 9” x 6” sheet, students place it in the middle of the 18” x 12” paper and trace lightly with a pencil around the edges
- Cut any shape out of the edge of the smaller piece of paper (instruct students to NOT cut all the way through the paper) (adaptation – provide templates of pre-cut shapes for the students to trace around prior to cutting)
- Place small piece back in traced area of larger sheet – DO NOT GLUE!! “Fold” cut shape out of the traced area and glue into place.
- Repeat the last two steps until the desired design is created.
- Glue what is left of the small sheet inside the traced area – position so the negative and positive shapes match.