

# Pizzas and the Art of Victor Cicansky

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## Biography of the Artist

Born into a large family in the east end of Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada, Victor Cicansky developed a healthy respect for gardening because his family grew most of what they ate. A high school teacher by training, Cicansky studied pottery at the University of Regina as a mature student. Dissatisfied with traditional approaches, he soon began to bend the rules, an approach which was encouraged by Master's studies at the University of California, Davis. Under the liberating effect of funk art, Cicansky returned to his prairie roots and began to create sculptures that celebrated rural themes, such as images of people in gardens, preparing or eating food, or storing jars of preserves on pantry shelves. A professor of Arts Education at the University of Regina for many years, Cicansky has continued to create both in bronze and clay works that depict the sensuous quality of fruit, vegetables, and the land.



Artwork in this lesson created by Grade 6 students

# Art Lesson /Victor Cicansky / Art from the Everyday

## Student Objectives

- Students will be inspired by the life and art of Victor Cicansky
- Students will understand what multi media art is.
- Students will understand the use of layering and repetition to create a sense of space.
- Students will create a low relief art object using found materials
- Students will be able to create a logo that is easy to read and gives a viewer the intended message instantly



## Materials

Pizza box pattern (see last page of lesson)

Clay

Glaze

Pencil Crayons

Glue



## Definition

### LOGO AS DEFINED TODAY:

- A logo carries the image of a company. Its function is to create a long lasting, recognizable impression on the mind of a potential client or customer.
- Set in a special typeface, it is a graphic element, symbol, and icon of a trademark or brand, which are the shapes, colors, fonts and images usually different from others in a similar market.
- A logo is an iconic symbol designed to represent a company, product or service. It also depicts an organization's personality.
- Generally Logo is dimensionally petite in dimension, thus as to fit into a variety of brochures, flyers, banners, stationary items, and other means of conveying the message/communication. It has been generally seen that the name of business establishment or corporate or social organization appears with the logo along with the slogan that conveys the essence of their vision and thoughts.
- Logos are the cryptogram of your business and are frequently display in additional places than everything else related with your labors does.
- A moment in which an image and the existence of your company is embedded in the mind of the client for longer period.
- A company, trade enterprise or a communal body to symbolize their trade interest, apparition and develop substance/monetary benefits through it, the personality of uses logos. It represents individual, or the group of people who are promoting that business interest.

## Web Links

[http://darrellbellgallery.com/pages/display\\_page.php?folder=victorcicansky&section=artists](http://darrellbellgallery.com/pages/display_page.php?folder=victorcicansky&section=artists)

## Language Arts Link

### Procedure

1. Look at images of Victor Cicansky's work. Point out the colour and asymmetry within his pieces
2. View images of logos online.
3. Talk about the logos that seem to work. What do they have in common??
4. Children design a logo for their "Pizza by the Slice" company.
5. Transfer the logo to box pattern and colour. Use pencil crayon for the box so that it can be glued later. Pastels or wax crayons will not work

effectively with glue.

6. The children then begin to create their pizza from clay.
7. Create a pattern for the pizza that is the same size as the bottom of the pizza box. Clay shrinks when it dries and when it is fired so the slice will fit if they keep all parts of the pizza slice within the pattern.
8. Roll clay into .5 cm slabs.
9. Cut pizza shape.
10. Roll a clay worm the size that they want the crust to be. Attached the crust using slip, pull the clay down so that the crust and bottom of the pizza look seamless.
11. Create the mushrooms, meat, peppers etc using clay that they roll out. These pieces should be as thin and lifelike in size as possible.
12. Create the cheese by rolling a slab very thin and cutting it with a clay cutting tool.
13. Make sure all of the pieces are securely attached with slip.
14. Fire the pieces
15. Glaze the pieces.
16. Place the pieces inside the pizza box and voila, a slice of pizza to go.
17. The pieces when labeled are a multi media piece because more than one medium was used in creation.



