

# The Name Game

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## Significant Problem

Every teacher struggles to remember students' names at the beginning of a new term. I came up with a plan to help me remember names and create art at the same time! Students love to see their name in print. The popular clothing and accessories with letter initials gave me the idea to have students incorporate their names or initials in a work of art on the computer.

## Assignment Overview

Students create a work of art by using their name in a repetitive way to fill the page. They consider ways to fill space, create movement, achieve unity, and design a composition with pleasing balance.

## Guiding Practice

First, review the elements and principles of design. The formal terms can be posted on an Art Word Wall. Then review various art forms, including computer graphics and design, and related careers in art. Next, students take turns at the class computers or go to the computer lab. View artworks on the Internet (or use art reproductions in the classroom) and consider ways to create compositions. Discuss the ways that we can make an artwork pleasing to the eye. Critique and talk about the aesthetic qualities.

Give students an instruction sheet for using their word processing program. As you read together, talk them through the process. The Name Game begins! Students type their name on the blank page. Then, they experiment with the font, font size, bold, italicize, underline, word art, inserting pictures, etc. Once they understand the basic tools, students create a work of art by using their name in a repetitive way to fill the page. They must pick one image from the clip-art library that represents them. It should be inserted as the area of emphasis.

When they finish, talk about the way they filled space, created movement, achieved unity, and designed a composition with balance.

By the end of this assignment, you should have circulated around the room often enough that you know each student by name. Collect the work and match it with the correct student without looking at a seating chart. If you fail to make a correct match, you could offer to owe them bonus points or candy.

*Lesson Online submitted by Elaine Eversgerd, an art teacher at Kirby Middle School in St. Louis, Missouri.*



## Assessment

Rubric Criteria:

**Contribution = 25 points**

Fills the page and empty spaces with name or initial

**Criteria = 25 points**

One area is emphasized with clip art/other creative way

**Artistry = 25 points**

Pleasing composition

**Creativity = 25 points**

Uses all of the word processing program's tools

**Total=100 pts.**