Lesson 1: Intro to Op Art
Students will respond to the five images of Op Art below using academic vocabulary to describe what they are seeing. Responses will be recorded in student sketchbooks. The teacher will introduce the learning segment with a brief slideshow of historical facts including a timeline. Whole class discussions will be facilitated regarding Op Art’s presence in today’s culture.
Lesson 1: Intro to Op Art visuals (cont’d)

WHAT DID YOU SEE?

CONTRAST
- overlapping
- 3D
- optical illusion
- shapes
- vibrating
- line
- geometric
- patterns
- rhythm
- movement
- repetition
- size
- visual effects
- abstract

OP ART.....
- is art that tricks the eye
- uses optical illusions
- is short for OPTICAL ART
- is mostly done in black and white
- can be paintings and sculptures
- creates visual tension that gives the illusion of movement
- uses line, pattern, and shape to create illusions
- started in the 1960s

Bridget Riley, Ardent 3-1965

THE LEADER OF OP ART:
VICTOR VASARELY
(1906-1997)

Zebra, 1937

L’Echiquier, 1935

1960s OP ART INFLUENCES

1960 Minimalist artists working in NY
1964 First color TV set manufactured
1965 “Hippie” term coined

1962 Andy Warhol starts screenprinting
1969 Woodstock
1969 First email message sent

1969 Walk on the moon
1965 Star Wars debuts

1969 Woodstock

1965 Star Wars debuts

1969 Walk on the moon

Is Op Art still relevant today?
Lesson 2: Op Art Techniques
Students will use these guides as a resource to complete their thumbnail Op Art sketches. Multiple copies will be displayed around the room and laminated for table use.

Lesson 2: Op Art Techniques
Visual reminders and tips will be created on slides to support the students as they design their sculpture patterns.
Lesson 3: Discussion of Form/Wire Activity

Students will participate in a classroom discussion about form and dimension. The slides below will be used as examples of how form creates interesting viewpoints at multiple angles. Students will follow the prompts on the Form Activity slide to complete the form activity.

- Each table will be given a word/idea
- Using the materials you are given, form a shape that is inspired by your word/idea
- On a separate sheet of paper answer this question: How is the shape your table created an interesting representation of your word/idea?

Lesson 3: Discussion of Form/Wire Activity

A teacher sample will be created to supply a visual representation of the steps to constructing the wire structures. Students will be able to refer to this example as they mold and shape their wires.
Lesson 4: Color
Students will refer to these visuals to discuss color, contrast, and making good choices for their sculpture patterns. Images of Op Art color patterns will be shown to connect the learning objective to the main idea of the learning segment.

Lesson 4: Color
Sample sculptures will be created beforehand to demonstrate painting techniques and color choice for students to reference.
Lesson 5: Poetic Analysis
Students will engage in a class brainstorm to collect descriptive words using academic vocabulary, nouns, adjectives, and verbs that relate to the teacher sample sculpture. The whole class discussion will exemplify the brainstorming process that each student will be completing individually to write a poetic analysis of their completed sculptures. A teacher sample poem will be written as an example of the learning objectives highlighted in this particular lesson.

**FINISHED WITH YOUR SCULPTURE?**
You have created a sculpture that shows design elements that include interesting optical illusion. In order to take it to the next level you will write a conceptual interpretation of your sculpture through poetry/short story.

**Brainstorming...**
What does the color make you think of?
What do you think of?
Adjective?
Noun?
Verb?

**PINBALL**
Plunging into the field
Round and round, up and down
Swinging, twisting, turning
CHING! CHING!
Spinning in dizzying motion
BING!
Targets ready to strike
Left hand, right hand
RING! RING!
Down the scoop and up the ramp
JACKPOT
Right hand, left hand
CHING! CHING!
Colors spiraling
eyes humming
Last chance to score
GAME OVER