

Tell Me About Your Art!

Dear Second Grade Families:

Today we used clay

FORMS FOR CHARACTERS.

Looking: We looked at *The Wolf Helper* by Bob Dempsey, *Yellow Satyr* by Patti Warashina, and/or *High Mountain Companions* by Dudley C. Carter and focused on how the artists created animal/fantasy **characters**.

Talking: We talked about the **shapes** the artist used to create character attributes: physical and emotional. We read a **story** and looked at its illustrations to help us brainstorm for character traits referenced in the story.

Making: We drew **an animal** character from the story in our sketchbooks with a focus on shapes to communicate **attributes**. We used our preliminary drawing from our sketchbook as a guide to construct a character portrait out of clay. We draped the clay over balled up newspaper to give the clay a mask-like form and then added clay features by using clay **slip** and **scoring techniques**.

Art at Home

Together:

You could work to create a character by taking turns adding different attributes. Use words to inspire the shapes you will need to assemble your character traits. Write about the character.

Use shapes to draw the character.

Questions to ask:

What are the physical traits of your character?
What are the emotional traits of your character?

Using shapes can create specific attributes for a character.