

**Pixelation Project:  
Creating Optical Illusions (Eiffel Tower)**



**Rhonda Gordon  
Robert Krouch  
Jodie Martin**

**Pixelation Project:  
Creating Optical Illusions**

**Pixel Project**

**Rational:** The 3-5<sup>th</sup> grade student will understand the relationship between the human visual system and technology of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**Goal:** Students will learn about how the eye works to form optical illusions and relate this knowledge to have a better understanding of how humans interact with technology.

**Grade Level:** 3-5<sup>th</sup>

**Subject:** Science and Math

**Lesson Objective:**

**Math:** Given a fraction, the 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade student will color a representation of the fraction value, to demonstrate understanding of fractions.

**Science:** Upon completion of the fraction squares, the 3<sup>rd</sup>- 5<sup>th</sup> grade student will combine the squares to develop a pixelized picture to demonstrate understanding of grayscale and pixels.

**FL. Sunshine State Standards:**

**Science:**

**SC.H.1.2.1.** Knows that a model of something is different from the real thing, but can be used to learn something about the real thing.

**SC.H.3.2.1.** Understands that people, alone or in groups, invent new tools to solve problems and do work that affects aspects of life outside of science.

**SC.H.3.2.2.** Knows that data are collected and interpreted in order to explain an event or concept.

**SC.H.3.2.3.** Knows that before a group of people build something or try something new, they should determine how it may affect other people.

**SC.H.3.2.4.** Knows that through the use of science processes and knowledge, people can solve problems, make decisions, and form new ideas.

## **Math:**

**MA.A.1.2.1.** Names whole numbers combining three-digit numeration (hundreds, tens, ones) and the use of number periods, such as ones, thousands, and millions and associates verbal names, written word names, and standard numerals with whole numbers, commonly used fractions, decimals, and percents.

**MA.A.1.2.2.** Understands the relative size of whole numbers, commonly used fractions, decimals, and percents.

**MA.A.1.2.3.** Understands concrete and symbolic representations of whole numbers, fractions, decimals, and percents in real-world situations.

**MA.A.1.2.4.** Understands that numbers can be represented in a variety of equivalent forms using whole numbers, decimals, fractions, and percents.

## **Materials:**

- Computer
- Black and White Abraham Lincoln picture
- Photoshop computer program
- Excel grid sheet
- Black permanent markers
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Pencil
- Tape

## **Procedure:**

Remove the Fraction sheets from Appendix A or if on the Internet, click on the following link: [Eiffel Tower Fraction Sheets](#)

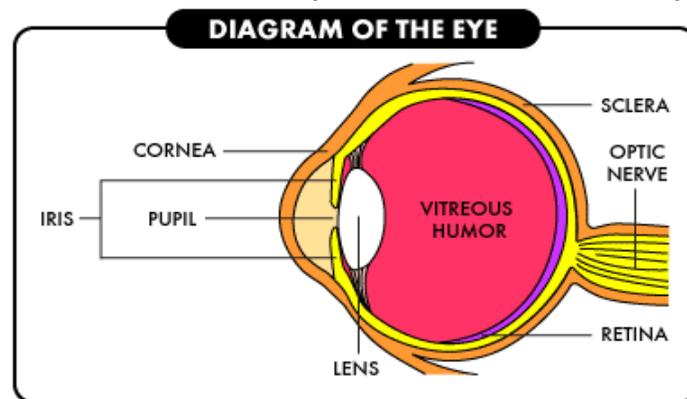
1. Give each student a numbered page of the document.
2. Instruct the students to use a pencil and marker to outline the fraction value of each cell.  
Example:
3. Trim the edges of the pages so that they easily fit together.
4. Remove the Page map from Appendix C
5. Tape each page
6. Have the students stand close to the picture to see if they see a clear image.
7. Have the students stand back 30-40 feet to see if there is a difference.

# Appendix A

## Teacher Background

## Background:

- Whenever you see an object it's because light rays are reflected through the lens in your eye. This lens is so flexible that you can focus on near and far objects and you can see things that you're not even focusing on.
- The light rays pass through the jelly-like eyeball and onto the retina- a screen in the back of your eye. The retina is made up of many special cells that are sensitive to light and color. From the retina, visual messages are relayed to the brain along a pathway called the optic nerve. Your brain then interprets this information into a picture.



- Today's modern televisions, computer monitors, and digital cameras utilize a similar process by storing images into points or pixels. Each pixel has its own color information and brightness. The more pixels in the picture, the more detailed the image appears.
- The eye's retina contains receptors in the back. All of the receptors are assimilated into a single image, because our brains are so sophisticated that they can process this information all at once. However this same sophistication is what tricks us every day.
- Televisions and computer screens are broken down into pixels. These pixels are continually changing. This is why we see the pictures as real time moving objects.
- Pixels start at the upper left hand corner of a screen. They add on to the right at a rapid speed. Each pixel is either a color or a grey-scale value. The pixels continue to refresh.
- Our eye is tricked into thinking that this is one picture and not a series of pixels.

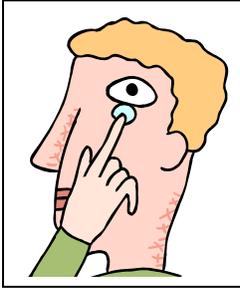
# Appendix B

## Student Worksheet

(Pixelation and You)

# Pixelization and You

Whenever you see an object it's because light rays are reflected through the lens in your eye. This lens is so flexible that you can focus on near and far objects and you can see things that you're not even focusing on.



In the back your eye you have a screen

Your HDTV, computer monitors, and digital cameras work in a very similar way. They all store images into points or pixels. Each pixel has its own color information and brightness. The more pixels in the picture, the more detailed the image appears.

Your eye's retina contains many receptors cells in the back. These receptor cells are like pixels on the screen.



The television, camera and monitor are broken down into pixels. These pixels are always changing. This is why we see the pictures moving objects. Pixels start at the upper left hand corner of a screen. They add on to the right at a rapid speed. Each pixel is either a color or a grey-scale value. The pixels continue to refresh. Your eye is tricked into thinking that this is one picture and not a series of pixels. In other words, your eyes blend the squares to form one image.

# Appendix C

## Page Map

# Page Map

Page 1	Page 8	Page 15	Page 22	Page 29	Page 36
Page 2	Page 9	Page 16	Page 23	Page 30	Page 37
Page 3	Page 10	Page 17	Page 24	Page 31	Page 38
Page 4	Page 11	Page 18	Page 25	Page 32	Page 39
Page 5	Page 12	Page 19	Page 26	Page 33	Page 40
Page 6	Page 13	Page 20	Page 27	Page 34	Page 41
Page 7	Page 14	Page 21	Page 28	Page 35	Page 42