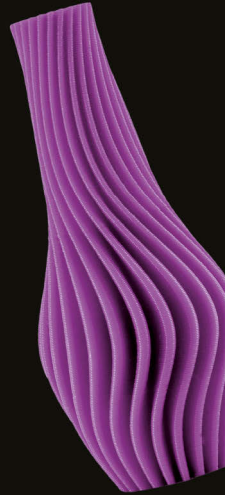




PLASTIC ARTS



EMILY SCHLESINGER



TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 1	
Art with Many Sides	5
CHAPTER 2	
Sculpture	11
CHAPTER 3	
Ceramics	17
CHAPTER 4	
Stone and Wood	23
CHAPTER 5	
Metal and Glass	29
CHAPTER 6	
Paper, Fabric, and More	35
CHAPTER 7	
High-Tech to Low-Tech	41
CHAPTER 8	
Thinking Big	47
GLOSSARY	52



A cotton candy machine

ART WITH MANY SIDES

What are your favorite art supplies? Many may say paints or pencils. Some name yarn or clay. Most people would not say cotton candy. But one artist likes working with spun sugar. His name is Erno-Erik Raitanen.

Cotton candy is fluffy. It is also sticky. Light shines through it. The candy changes color when it is squeezed. Raitanen uses it to make big works of art. These hang at art shows. Viewers tear pieces off. They lick them. The art is always changing. To the artist, that makes it great.

Ji Yong-Ho lion sculpture made of recycled rubber tires



Ji Yong-Ho is an artist too. He has a favorite art supply: used car tires. These are soft. But they are strong. Ji Yong-Ho carves out creatures. They include mutants and mythical animals. He has made monsters. The artist gives them wings, fur, and fangs. Old tires get new life.



Erika Iris Simmons knows where to find art supplies. They are inside old **cassettes**. She pulls out all the tape. There are hundreds of feet. Her fingers get to work. They untangle it. Faces appear. These belong to the singers on the tape. Her work has a name. It is called *Ghost in the Machine*.



Fast Fact

Erika Iris Simmons's cassette tape portraits were featured in a music video by Bruno Mars, which received more than one billion views on YouTube.



These artists are very different. But their work shows one thing. Art does not have to be flat. It can be three-dimensional (3D). Anything can be used. Some use stone, clay, or wood. Others use chewing gum or spiderwebs. Art does not have to stay on walls. It can be part of our world. We can wear it, sit on it, or even eat it.



Cloud, an interactive sculpture consisting of 6,000 functional light bulbs



Art installation *Please Be Seated* by Paul Cockledge Studio, London 2021



These 3D art forms have a name. They are the plastic arts. The word plastic is key. This is not what the art is made of. The word has another meaning. Plastic means able to be shaped or molded. There are many ways to make this art. All involve shaping material into something new.



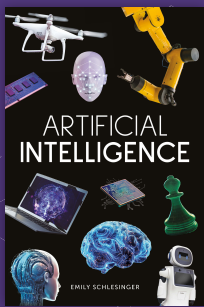
Fast Fact

The plastic arts include many art forms, such as sculpture, woodworking, ceramics, ice sculpture, jewelry making, stone carving, and paper folding.

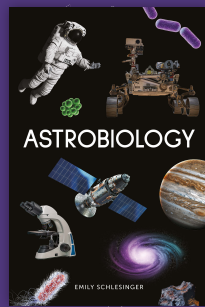


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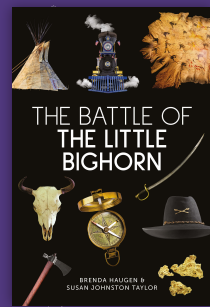
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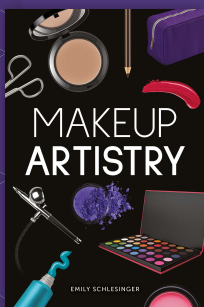
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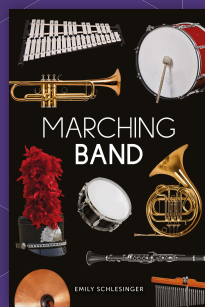
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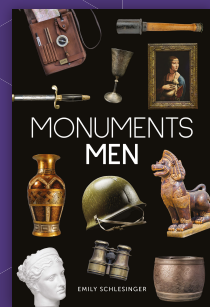
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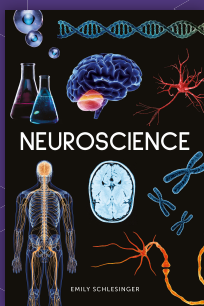
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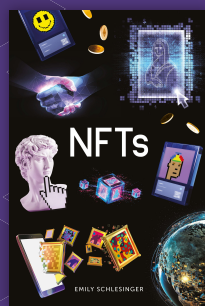
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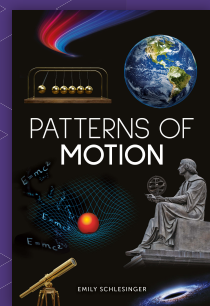
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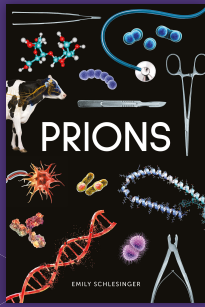
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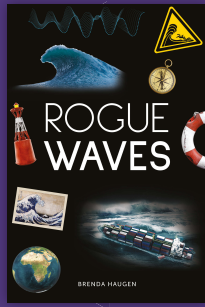
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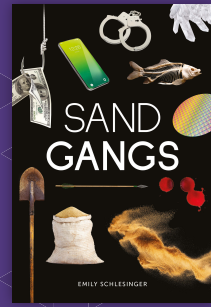
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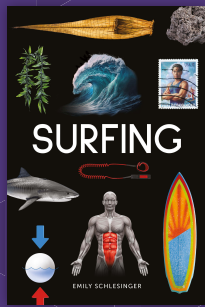
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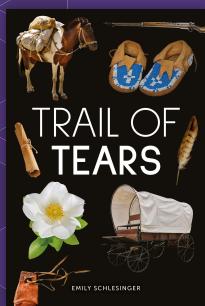
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ARTS

PLASTIC ARTS

People tear apart an artist's work before eating it. An army of hand-carved soldiers guard an ancient emperor's tomb. Salvaged tires are transformed into mutants and monsters. These are just a few examples from the diverse world of plastic arts. From cheese collages to giant metal spiders, this 3D art form always keeps viewers guessing.



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