



# LAND ART

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Land art, or earth art, uses the natural landscape as its canvas.



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Also known as *earthworks* or *environmental art*, **land art** happens when the artist creates outdoors *with elements of the natural world*.



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Some ways that artists create land art include:

- sculpting the land
- arranging natural materials such as rocks, twigs, leaves, and more.





Land artists often use geometric patterns, color gradients, and spirals in their work.

See more Land Art process videos here:

[15 Incredible Works of Land Art](#)



# LAND ART



Most earthworks are **ephemeral**: they only last for a short amount of time.

Andy Goldsworthy arranged these maple leaves in a puddle to create an **ephemeral** artwork. The leaves will drift and sink. The artistic composition will disappear.

# Andy Goldsworthy



Watch the video about Andy Goldsworthy's artistic process.

In the video, we see one of his projects fail.

What kind of attitude do you think Goldsworthy has about failure?

# Andy Goldsworthy



How does Goldsworthy use the **elements of art** and **principles of design** in his work?

## Elements

Line  
Shape  
Texture  
Space  
Form  
Color  
Value

## Principles

Contrast  
Balance  
Emphasis  
Harmony  
Proportion  
Movement  
Pattern

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# LAND Artworks

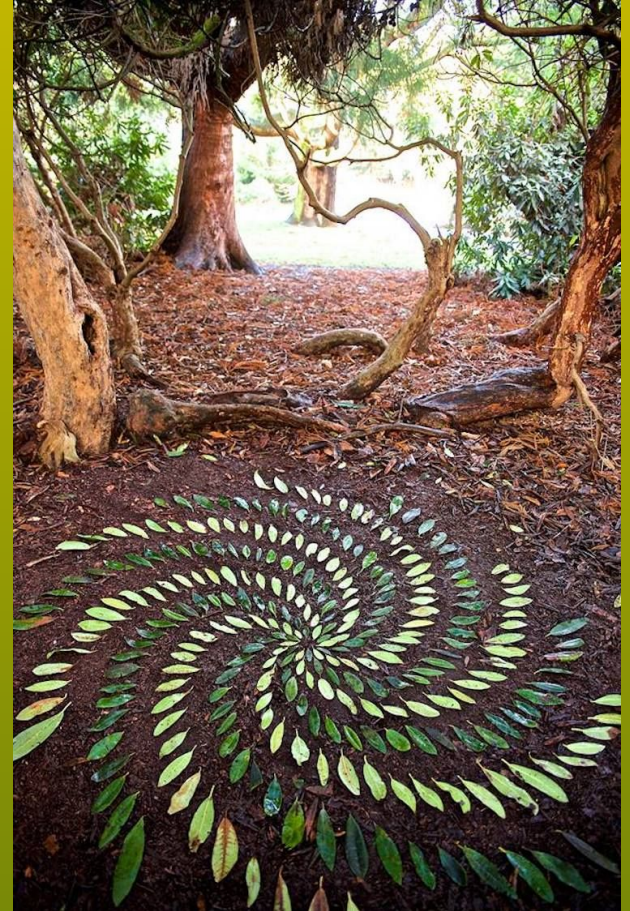


Robert Smithson - "Spiral Jetty"

# LAND Artworks



James Brunt

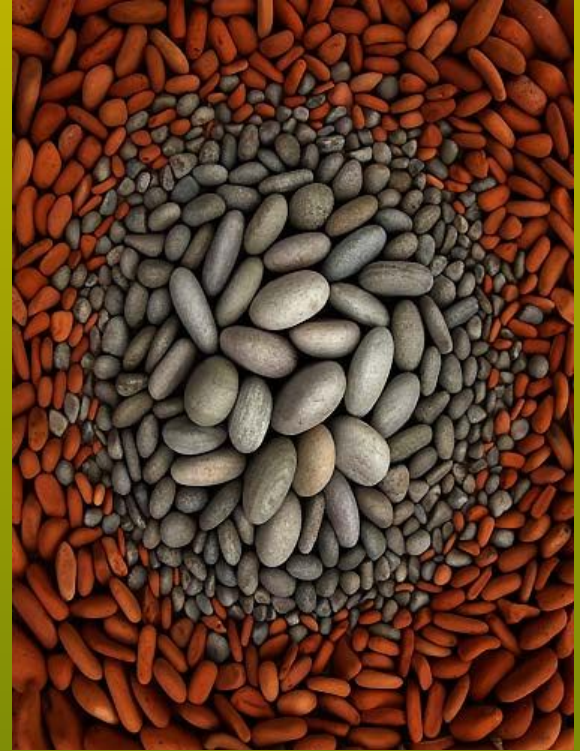


# LAND Artworks



Dietmar Voorwold

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## YOUR TASK:

Create a work of LAND ART.

- Work outdoors
- Use found, natural materials
- Utilize the art elements and design principles

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## Step 1: Scout the Scene

Explore your yard or an outdoor area where you can create your “earthwork.”

Is there a fence, tree, stump, puddle, or area on the ground that you can use as your “canvas”?



## Step 3: Assemble the Artwork



Envision a design plan or work spontaneously.

Consider the use of color, line, shape, space, texture, and form.

Most importantly, have fun and enjoy the process.

## Step 4: Documentation

When you decide your work is finished, it is time to document your **ephemeral** (temporary) artwork.

Make it count!

The photo should be:

- Clear, in-focus
- Centered in the frame



# Student Work Examples



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