Arrays All Around Us
Arrays and Multiplication

by Rosalynn Roach
Math/Visual Art
Grade 3

Math Standard 3.MD.7
Relate area to the operations of multiplication and addition

Visual Art Standard 3.V.CR.4:
Individually or collaboratively construct representations, diagrams, or maps of places that are part of everyday life.

Objective: Students will learn about arrays by creating a scene containing different sized multiplication arrays. They will write multiplication problems to go with their scene. and will look for multiplication problems in other student's scenes.

Equipment and Materials needed:

Amanda Bean's Amazing Dream by Cindy Neuschwander
Art paper
Crayons, colored pencils, markers
Rulers

Procedures:

Read the book, Amanda Bean's Amazing Dream. Discuss with your class how you can find multiplication all around you, in arrays or just in equal groups. Find some examples in the book. Find some examples in your classroom. (examples: floor or ceiling tiles, desks arranged in rows and columns, or in equal groups, a hundreds chart, etc)

Invite the students to draw a scene showing as many different examples of arrays or equal groups. They may want to use a ruler to make sure the lines on the arrays are straight. You can require them to have at least 5 examples or just leave it up to them. Ask them to color it like the scenes in Amanda Bean's Amazing Dream, neatly and with bright colors.

Then, on the back, the students will write down all the multiplication sentences that go with their arrays and groups.

Assessment:

Post the pictures around the room. Number each picture. The students will walk around with a clipboard and pencil and try to name as many multiplication sentences as they can from each picture. Then each student will present their picture and tell everyone which math sentences can be found in their picture, and each student will see if they found them all.