

LESSON PLAN TITLE:

**Calder Inspired Mobiles**  
**By Melissa Maxfield-Miranda**



MATERIALS:

Large paper clips, needle nose pliers, wire cutters, thin wire, scissors, hole punch, glue and various cut out paper shapes.

OBJECTIVES:

Students will learn to use fine and gross motor skills by cutting shapes for mobile, gluing and punching holes. Students will also use their problem solving and critical thinking skills for putting together a whole mobile while working on it in parts.

ANTICIPATORY SET (LEAD-IN, ACTIVATING PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE, "HOOK"):

Slideshow of Alexander Calder mobiles, images of his studio and several examples of his 3-D wire artwork, including jewelry. Teacher's multiple examples and demonstration.

STEP-BY-STEP PROCEDURE:

1. Students will cut out approximately 6 organic and geometric shapes, double sided for weight and visual interest.
2. Student will glue double sided shapes together and punch hole towards top of shape.
3. Student will add small thing flexible wire jump ring, pre-made using wire cutters.
4. Students will receive 5 pre bent paper clips, opened, twisted with center loop and two curled ends.
5. Upon each end of clip, where it is curved, student will place one jump ring with shape. On the other, another paper clip at its center loop.
6. Teacher may have to assist to close curve at each end of paper clip.
7. Students will continue this until all ends are filled by paper clip or shapes. Ultimately a cascading mobile is created.
8. One regular formed paper clip can be added to top loop for hanger.

