

Architecture

Hello Students!

In looking at museums and museum spaces, we were able to consider how people move about rooms, buildings, thinking about the purpose of those buildings, and how they look. This week, we'll explore **architecture**, which is all about buildings, structures and the art of designing them.

Frank Lloyd Wright, a famous American architect, designed several amazing homes and buildings! *(He even has one here in Arizona! I'll tell you about it soon)*



Frank Lloyd Wright, Elam House, 1950
Austin, MN

Architecture (n.): the art or practice of designing and constructing buildings.



Frank Lloyd Wright, Fallingwater, 1935
Mill Run, PA

- See how the house is surrounded by trees and nature. Why do you think Frank Lloyd Wright named this home “Fallingwater”?

As an architect, he was known for making unique designs that were inspired by nature, yet used lots of **geometric** shapes. Notice the straight lines and hard edges in the photos above.

“Great architecture, like any great art, ultimately takes you somewhere that words cannot take you at all.” -Paul Goldberger, Pulitzer Prize-winning architectural critic



Geometric Shapes



- Above is another view of *Fallingwater*. **Consider:** What season is it? Do you think this makes the home look different?

Remember, architecture goes beyond just homes. It can also include much taller buildings, like **skyscrapers**! These are often used as office spaces or hotels.



Skyscrapers (n.): a very tall building of many stories.



Architect Adrian Smith, is part of a firm, or a team, of architects. SOM is the name of the firm he works for. In architecture firms, several architects come together to develop ideas and designs.

Adrian Smith (SOM Architects), *Burj Khalifa*, 2009

The Burj Khalifa, in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, is currently the tallest skyscraper in the world!

Yet, this was only true as of 2009. In the future, another skyscraper can be built that is even taller, and breaks the record for World's Tallest Building.

Your Task

Complete the “How Like Wright Are You?” questionnaire. This is a fun way to see how much you have in common with a famous architect! Give yourself one point for every similar interest.

HOW LIKE WRIGHT ARE YOU?		
<p>Teachers: “This is a short survey to determine how much you have in common with Frank Lloyd Wright. Give yourself one point every time you have a similar interest to Wright’s.”</p>		
<p>1. FLLW was born on June 8, 1867. That’s a long time ago – over 150 years! <i>How many of you have a summer birthday like FLLW – June, July, or August?</i></p>		
<p>2. Growing up, FLLW lived in many towns and different states. His father had a job that kept them moving to many different places. <i>How many of you have lived in more than one city or state?</i></p>		
<p>3. One of FLLW’s favorite toys were building blocks called Froebel blocks, which he used to design and build new and imaginary structures. <i>How many of you like to play with Lego or K’nex?</i></p>		
<p>4. FLLW had posters on his wall of things he liked and that inspired him. <i>Do any of you have posters on your walls at home of things that you like and that inspire you?</i></p>		
<p>5. FLLW once designed a doghouse for a dog name Eddie. <i>How many of you have a dog at home? How many of you have a different pet like a cat or hamster?</i></p>		
<p>6. FLLW designed many houses and buildings, including the famous Guggenheim Museum in New York City. <i>How many of you have visited New York City? The Guggenheim Museum? Or maybe another museum?</i></p>		
<p>7. FLLW grew up on a farm in Wisconsin. <i>Have you ever visited a farm? Did you get to see farm animals like cows or chickens?</i></p>		
<p>8. FLLW liked to eat oatmeal every morning for breakfast. <i>How many of you like oatmeal? Did anyone have oatmeal for breakfast today?</i></p>		
<p>Teachers: “Now, let’s total everyone’s points and divide by the number of students, multiply by 74, and divide by 9 to get the Wright Similarity Index Quotient.”</p> <p>“Wow! As a class we scored 96% on the Wright Similarity Scale! Something tells me we have some future architects in this class!”</p>		
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