



Barbara Kasten is best known for her abstract photography, but she started out as painter and a textile artist.

Kasten is interested in what light can do. Her photographs and installations play with our perception.

Questions:

Look carefully at Barbara Kasten's photograph *Progression Fourteen* (2019). How many shapes and colors can you find?

The artist creates temporary sculptures to photograph in her studio that lean on themselves and sometimes fall over. What would you do if something you made collapsed?

Activity:

Playing with Light and Color

Barbara Kasten experiments with light and color in many ways!

Fill a few clear cups or jars with water. If you have food coloring, add a different drop of color into each cup. Place the cups in a

sunny place and observe. Create a drawing by placing a piece of white paper under the cups and trace the shadows with a pencil.

For More Fun

See how many ways you can play with light and shadow.

Rearrange the cups, change the direction of your light source, or move your body around to view the cups, colors, light, and shadows from a different perspective.

Building with Shadows

You can make interesting forms and shapes by overlapping shadows.

Go outside on a sunny day with a few objects or toys from the house. Arrange the objects in a way that makes an unexpected shadow.

For More Fun

How many different combinations of shadows can you make with your objects?

Try one or both of the activities at different times of the day (for example: in the morning, at noon, and in the afternoon).