Dear Family,

In my class today, we looked at a sculpture from the Cleveland Museum of Art then made one of our own from recycled cardboard boxes.

Did You Know?

- Many artists use recycled materials to create artwork. When old products are reused to create something of greater value, they are considered to be upcycled (i.e., old shipping pallets can be used to make furniture). While the concept of upcycling is not a new process, the term originated in the 1990s. Upcycling is an affordable and environmentally friendly way to create art at home and in the classroom.

- John Chamberlain used parts of cars as the material for his sculpture. Sculptures are three-dimensional artworks. They are different than two-dimensional paintings and drawings because they are not flat; they have form. Chamberlain liked using cars for his artwork so much that after 1959, that was the only material he used. Chamberlain was an American artist who worked in the 1950s, at the same time as the Abstract Expressionist painters of the New York School. They used action or gesture painting as a way to convey emotions. Chamberlain did the same thing using form or three dimensions.

Ask Your Child:

- How did you make your sculpture?

- What side of your sculpture is your favorite?

- You got to paint and build; which do you like best?

Activities To Do With Your Child:

- Make bottle cap art by gluing collected caps to a piece of cardboard.

- Make a 3-D family. Toilet paper tubes will stand in for each person. Draw a face then use patterns found in magazines or scraps of fabric to create clothes. Larger boxes can be used to create a house, a boat, a car—whatever you can imagine!

Vocabulary To Use With Your Child:

- **art** – a creative expression.

- **artist** – a person who has a skill at painting, music, dancing, or any other form of art.

- **flat** – a surface that does not have higher and lower places; smooth and even.

- **sculpture** – an artwork that is not flat; one that has three dimensions.

- **recycle** – to put used things through a process that allows them to be used again.

- **upcycle** – to reuse old materials in a new way that increases their value.