

FOOTPRINTS & FLOORSPLANS

GRADE: 3-5

TIME: 30 minutes

Participants will examine the footprint and floor plan of the Frederick C. Robie House and compare them to patterns Wright designed throughout the home. Inspired by this relationship and geometric shapes, participants will then create their own unique carpet design based on their school or classroom's footprint.

INTEGRATED SUBJECTS: Visual Art & Math

OBJECTIVES

1. Increase awareness of Frank Lloyd Wright's design legacy and the Frederick C. Robie House.
2. Explore the concept of Organic Architecture.
3. Challenge participants to re-imagine every day spaces and think abstractly.

MATERIALS & RESOURCES

Images of the Frederick C. Robie House

Footprint and floor plans

Carpet Designs

Additional interior images

Image of school or classroom footprint and floor plan

Drawing paper

Pencils

Color Pencils

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

1. How can different designs work together to create one larger design?
2. What can inspire a design?
3. What is abstract design?
4. How can design change the world around us?

LESSON PROCEDURE

- Introduce Frank Lloyd Wright and share images of the Frederick C. Robie House focusing on the shape of the house from above. Share images of the house's footprint and floor plan. (A footprint can be seen with [Google Maps](https://www.google.com/maps/@41.801544,-87.629044,15z). Floor plans are available at: <https://www.teachingbydesign.org/multimedia/>)
- **Discuss participant observations.** Ask: What shapes do you see? Are they similar? How do they compare to the shape the house makes from a birds-eye-view? Was this purposeful?
- Share the footprint and floorplan of your school or classroom and discuss what participants see.
- Have participants create their own design inspired by your school or classroom.
- Provide an opportunity for participants to share their work.