Ecosystem by Carlos Bunga
ArtPrize 2013: Juried Grand Prize Winner

Portuguese artist Carlos Bunga uses cardboard, packing tape, and house paint to create architectural installations in response to the buildings that house them. Ecosystem transformed part of the former Grand Rapids Public Museum, where Bunga built onto the architecture to separate certain areas and join others to create new associations between the aging dioramas. Bunga’s works point out how our built environments impact, guide, and occasionally fail us.

Architects design buildings; they design for safety, efficiency, and looks, and make decisions about what materials will be used in the building’s construction. They have to consider how the people who use the building will move through the space, making it comfortable, accessible, and easy to navigate through.

Creative Challenge: Design a Museum

Imagine that you have the opportunity to design a museum. Does it feature art, science, history, or maybe all three? How can the layout best serve visitors?
- Look at the maps for various museums in Grand Rapids. See how the architects organized spaces for different purposes. See how they drew walls, stairs, windows, and doorways, and how they all fit together in the floorplan.
- Make a list of what you will need in your museum. Think about galleries, bathrooms, display cases, a theater, maybe even a gift store.
- Draw your own floor plan that has everything your museum needs, keeping visitors in mind.
- Take your floor plan home and share it with a friend. Ask them if they could re-design your museum, what they would change about it and why.

Bring this card home with you. COLLECT ALL 12 cards by completing ArtPrize 10 Creative Challenges!

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