

# Art and Activity: John Chamberlain

John Chamberlain (1927–2011) first made sculptures out of welded iron, but in the late 1950s discovered that car parts and scrap metal were easier and cheaper to come by—and very often already colored with beautifully weathered paint. He favored using everyday and readily available materials. Chamberlain viewed the materiality of the metal as a way to connect three-dimensional sculptures with two-dimensional paintings.

## MATERIALS

- Paper (to draw on)
- Tape or glue
- Drawing or painting materials (markers, crayons, or pencils; or brushes and paint)

## ACTIVITY

- Add color to and experiment with paper—rip, cut, crumple, and fold sheets to create your own mini sculptures.
- Create a standing sculpture without using any glue or tape. Twist, tie, and interlock pieces of paper to create structural integrity. What techniques make the sculpture balance on its own?



John Chamberlain, *Whirled Peas*, 1991