

Anoka Hennepin K-12 Curriculum Unit Plan

Department: Elementary Art

Course/Grade Level: 4th Grade

Unit Title: Communication Through Art

Number of Lessons/Days: Trimester 1, 12 weeks

Unit Summary: Students will explore how art is a form of visual communication. Students will critique works of art using VTS and record comments about works of art as if they are “reading” narrative pieces of art, from a variety of cultures, such as work by Faith Ringgold, Marc Chagall, Grandma Moses, Clementine Hunter, Dakota Wintercounts. Throughout this unit students will practice brainstorming ideas and drawing thumbnail sketches in order to communicate an idea and something about themselves in a final piece of art. The cumulative summative assessment (GRASPSS) has two components: reading a work of art and creating a work of art that communicates.

DESIRED RESULTS (STAGE 1)

Program Understanding and/or Minnesota State/Local/Core Standards and Technology Standard(s) addressed:

K-12 Program Understandings for Art

I. HISTORY AND CULTURE

A. Students will understand that art is created, exists, and evolves in a historical and cultural context.

II. AESTHETICS/ANALYSIS

A. Students will understand that the human experience is communicated using visual language.

III. STUDIO/PRODUCTION

B. Students will understand that creating artwork requires the use of creative problem solving.

Minnesota State Standards

1.3 Artistic Foundations: Demonstrate understanding of the personal, social, cultural and historical contexts that influence the arts areas.

Benchmark 2. Describe how visual art communicates meaning.

2.1 Artistic Process: Create or Make: Create or make in a variety of contexts in the arts area using the artistic foundations.

Benchmark 2. Revise an artwork based on the feedback of others and self-reflection.

<p>Overarching Understanding(s) from Curriculum Map/Course Understandings:</p> <p><i>Students will understand that...</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • personal experiences, culture and environment impact artwork. • artists communicate meaning and emotion through the use of artistic foundations. • artists make personal choices to convey meaning. • there is more than one way to meet an artistic challenge. <p>Topical Understanding(s) Specific to Unit:</p> <p><i>Students will understand that....</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • when creating art, artists are influenced by their environment and their cultural/ historical backgrounds. • artists communicate ideas and emotion in their art. • artists tell stories about themselves, others, and the world around them through their artwork. • an artist’s first idea may change and develop as they work on their art creation. • a number of artists working on the same artistic challenge will often come up with different ways to solve the challenge. 	<p>Essential Question(s) from Curriculum Map/Course Essential Questions:</p> <p><i>To understand, student will need to consider such questions as...</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do personal experiences impact artwork? • How does environment impact artwork? • How do artists use their personal choices to create and convey meaning in their work? • How are feelings expressed in art? • How can a creative challenge be solved in more than one way? <p>Topical Essential Questions for Unit:</p> <p><i>To understand, student will need to consider such questions as...</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do I “read” art? • What does a piece of art communicate about the artist who created it? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ their culture? ○ where and when they are living? ○ their ideas and emotions? • How can art tell a story? • How can I brainstorm ideas for my own art? • Where do I find inspiration for my art?
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<i>To understand, student will need to...</i>	
<p>know...Student will need to know the following in order to...(e.g. facts, concepts, generalizations, rules, theories, principles)</p>	<p>be able to...(Students will be able to DO...skills, procedures, processes)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • artwork communicates and can be “read” like a story. • artwork is often a personal reflection and may reveal characteristics about the artist. • artists get ideas from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the world around them ○ other people ○ their favorite things ○ things that are important to them ○ and things that they feel strongly about • art is a process and often needs to be revised. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “read” artwork and explain what the art is communicating. • incorporate an idea about themselves or from the world around them into their artwork. • create a piece of art that “says” something and can be “read” by the viewer. • revise their artwork using self-reflection and peer feedback.

Essential **new** vocabulary:

- **Communication:** the exchange of ideas and thoughts
- **Illustrator:** an artist who creates artwork that communicates specific ideas
- **Illustration:** a visual used to communicate an idea
- **Thumbnail sketch:** Small quick drawing that records ideas and information for a final work of art.
- **Visual Story:** a narrative that is communicated without using words

Common misunderstanding(s):

- Writing and speaking are the only forms of communication.
- Artwork does not “say” anything.
- My first idea is always the best idea.
- I don’t have to brainstorm ideas for my art.
- Artists do not revise their work.