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Howard County
Language Arts and Visual Arts

Lesson Title: Suit Up! Express Yourself!

Grade: 3

Purpose: Understand multiple ways that humans express their personal style.

Fine Arts Standard(s):

3.0 Students will demonstrate the ability to organize knowledge and ideas for expression in the expression of art.

Fine Arts Indicator(s):

1. Create images and forms from observations, memory, and imagination.

Fine Arts Objective(s):

- a. Experiment with the art techniques of embossing and engraving to express personal meaning
- b. Manipulate art tools safely

Language Arts Standard(s):

4.0 Students will compose in a variety of modes by developing content, employing specific forms, and selecting language appropriate for a particular audience and purpose.

Language Arts Indicator(s):

4. Identify how language choices in writing and speaking affect thoughts and feelings

Language Arts Objective(s):

- a. Select words appropriate to express personal style
- b. Acquire and use new vocabulary
- c. Consider the effect of word choices on the audience

Arts Integrated Objective: The students will both create art with texture and describe texture using effective word choice and vivid adjectives.

Vocabulary: relief, emboss, engrave, texture, metal, suit of armor

Materials & Resources for the Class: aluminum foil, chopsticks, paper clips, wire, wire cutters, needle-nosed pliers (for twisting wire)

Revive, Contemplate, and Integrate

The Walters Art Museum/Young Audiences of Maryland Teacher Workshop 2007-08

Materials & Resources for the Teacher: LCD projector, computer with internet access, collection of picture books about knights

Museum Resources: suit of armor, www.thewalters.org

Teaching Artist Resources: N/A

Prior Knowledge:

Adjectives are a part of speech used to describe a person, place, or thing.
Experience with rich and varied descriptors.
6+1 Writing Traits, especially the trait of word choice

Procedures:

Motivation

Brainstorm three adjectives to describe each item of clothing on the teacher, thinking about purpose and design.

Introduce the vocabulary words by showing the word cards and hinting to how the words will come into the lesson activities.

Use LCD projector to show students The Walters Museum website link to a suit of armor (within Science curriculum/Medieval Period). Zoom in on the detail on the Maximilian Armor. Brainstorm techniques that might have been used to decorate the armor. Describe the armor, also thinking about purpose and design. Use open-ended questioning technique called VTS (visual thinking strategies), asking the students: What do you see, what makes you say that, can you tell me more?

Modeling

Demonstrate how to engrave images into a sheet of aluminum foil, by carefully rubbing a chopstick tip over the surface of the foil. Demonstrate how to emboss, or print a relief image into a sheet of aluminum foil, by carefully rubbing it over a small paper clip or another shaped piece of wire. Describe the finished piece of art using three or more simple descriptors, writing them on an overhead. Offer access to dictionary and thesaurus.

Distribute Student-friendly rubrics for Word Choice and Texture (printed on one sheet of paper, front and back). Explain the expectations of the lesson as described on the rubrics.

Guided Practice

Students work with a partner to plan a piece of art by listing three or more rich and varied descriptors, directing students to improve upon the ones that were given in the modeling step.

Small groups meet with one of the teachers to create a new piece of art that reflects these descriptors using one or both techniques. Offer access to the picture books about knights, in case they need more help with inspiration, texture ideas, or for further reading after the lesson.

Independent Practice

Students may choose the order for these two activities:

1. Write a short paragraph with great word choice to describe their own personal style.
2. Create an aluminum piece of art using relief and or engraving to reflect their own personal style.

Direct students to make both creations have common threads, no matter which one they choose to do first.

Assessment:

Student-friendly rubrics:

6+1 Writing Traits rubric for Word Choice

Texture rubric (adapted from the 6+1 Writing Traits rubric for Word Choice)

Scoring Guide for Teachers

6+1 Writing Traits Scoring Guide for Word Choice

Texture Scoring Guide

Closure:

Apply the term “texture” to describe the pieces of art.

Thoughtful Application:

Students need to express themselves through a variety of methods.

Lesson Extension:

Make a simulated suit of armor as described in the lesson “A Knight in Cardboard Armor” on The Walters Museum website (within Science curriculum/Medieval Period) and add a layer of aluminum foil that has been decorated using the techniques of engraving and relief.

Lesson Adaptations:

Students can work with partners to create the written and art pieces.