AFK ArtReach Video: Drawing What We Hear

Activity:

In this video an AFK art teacher shares an activity in which students create drawings that represent sounds in their environment. Students consider the skills needed to listen with attention and undertake an outdoor listening activity in which they record sounds through mark-making. Students can extend their learning by creating recordings of sound pieces. Students will learn about and reflect on the artwork of Canadian artist Ann Kipling.

Inquiry Questions:

How can we represent what we hear in a drawing?  
Why is it important to listen with attention?

Pre-Class Preparation:

The teacher will need to prepare the following materials prior to the activity:

- Computer and projector to display video in class
- White 8.5” x 11” sheet of printer or construction paper (1 per student)
- Sheet of thick white paper (i.e. cardstock, poster board) – 17” x 5.5” (1 per student)
- Black paper to be used to mount 17” x 5.5” sheet of paper (optional) (1 per student)
- Drawing board or other hard drawing surface that can fit 17” x 5.5” sheet of paper for drawing outside (1 per student)
- Black drawing tool (i.e. black crayon, black oil pastel, black China Marker)
- Found objects to create sounds with (i.e. container of tacks, scissors, crumpled paper, bell, etc.)
- Device to record audio with (i.e. cell phone, iPad, computer)

Curricular Competencies: What students will DO

Students will be able to use the following creative process(es):

- Create a drawing using ideas inspired by the artwork of Canadian artist Ann Kipling as well as experimentation and the experience of listening with attention (Visual Arts, Grades 5-7)  
- Intentionally select artistic elements such as line and value to represent sounds in a drawing (Visual Arts, Grades 5-7)  
- Observe and describe ways that visual artist Ann Kipling uses materials and techniques to represent change, transformation, and movement in her artwork (Visual Arts, Grades 5-7)  
- Describe and respond to visual artworks and explore artists’ intent (Visual Arts, Grades 5-7)
Concepts and Content: What students will KNOW

Students will know the following concepts and content:

- Elements and principles of art and design including line, value, repetition, and variety *(Visual Arts, Grades 5-7)*

Second Step Curriculum

Students will explore the following questions from Lesson 2 in the Grade 5 Second Step curriculum:

- What are skills that we improve with practice?
- What are skills that are needed to listen with attention?
- Why is it important to listen with attention?

First Peoples Principles of Learning

- Learning involves patience and time.

Core Competencies (suggested questions for reflection)

- COMMUNICATION: How do you show that you are listening with attention? In what ways does your listening contribute to your understanding?
- THINKING: How can we represent what we hear in a drawing?
- PERSONAL AND SOCIAL: How does it feel to have someone else interpret your drawing of sounds?

Suggested Descriptive Feedback

- Nora observes works of visual art and describes ways in which artists use materials and techniques to represent change, transformation, and movement through drawing.
- Nora contributes her ideas about works of visual art to the group and asks thoughtful questions.
- Nora is practicing skills needed for listening with attention.
- Nora has explored and developed techniques for representing sound in a drawing.