AFK ArtReach Video: Mapping Our Own Perspectives

Activity:
In this video an AFK art teacher shares ideas for creating map tiles by drawing and painting with watercolours inspired by Canadian artist Landon Mackenzie. Students can join their own map tiles with those of their classmates to create a large collaborative map representing unique points of view.

Inquiry Questions:
How can we represent our own perspectives of an experience or place through drawing? How can trying to understand other people’s perspectives help us to respond with respect and thoughtfulness?

Big Ideas:
Artists experiment in a variety of ways to discover new possibilities and perspectives (Arts Education) Works of art influence and are influenced by the world around us (Arts Education)

Pre-Class Preparation:
The teacher will need to prepare the following materials prior to the activity:
- Computer and projector to display video in class
- 8cm x 8cm sheets of thick white paper (4 per student)
- 8.5” x 11” sheet of white paper (1 per student)
- Pencil
- Eraser
- Sharpie
- Ruler
- Watercolour set, brushes, water pot
- Black oil pastel and white oil pastel
- Drawing board or clip board (for drawing outside)
- OPTIONAL: pencil crayons (instead of watercolour paints)

Second Step Curriculum
Students will explore the following questions from Lesson 5 in the Grade 5 Second Step Curriculum:
- How can understanding other people’s perspectives help you to respond in a respectful and thoughtful way?
- How would it feel in your classroom if you all really tried to understand each other’s perspectives?
- Can you think of an example today when you could practice taking another person’s perspective?
First Peoples Principles of Learning

- Learning is holistic, reflexive, reflective, experiential, and relational (focused on connectedness, on reciprocal relationships, and a sense of place).

Curricular Competencies: What students will DO

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

- Create map tiles individually and then combine them into a collaborative map using ideas inspired by inquiry, observation, and experimentation (Arts Education, Grades 4-7)
- Express feelings, ideas, and experiences through drawing (Arts Education, Grades 4-7)
- Describe and respond to visual artworks and explore artists’ intent (Arts Education, Grades 4-7)
- Express feelings, ideas, and experiences through drawing (Arts Education, Grades 4-7)

Concepts and Content: What students will KNOW

Students will know the following concepts and content:

- Elements and principles of art and design including line, shape, texture, and colour (Arts Education, Grades K-3)
- Students will know and make use of the processes and materials required for creating a watercolour painting (i.e. representing texture, isolating colour in specific areas of a painting, etc.) (Arts Education, Grades 4-7)

Core Competencies (suggested questions for reflection)

- COMMUNICATION: What did you learn about other people’s perspectives when you combined your map tiles with others' map tiles?
- THINKING: What senses did you use to observe your environment on your walk?
- PERSONAL AND SOCIAL: How can taking other people’s perspectives help you to develop positive relationships?

Suggested Descriptive Feedback

- Nora contributes her ideas and questions about works of visual art to the group, exploring artists' intent.
- Nora uses processes and tools required for creating watercolour paintings.
- Nora expresses her feelings, ideas, and experiences through the creation of a map. She works with peers to share perspectives and to create a collaborative map.