



AFK ArtReach Video: Transforming Words into Art

Activity:

In this video an AFK art teacher shares an activity in which students collect words and phrases from the environment around them and transform them into art. Students learn about Exquisite Corpse, a game used by artists from the Surrealist art movement for creating collaborative texts and drawings. Students use paint and a variety of drawing media to turn their "found" words into a mixed-media artwork

Inquiry Questions:

How can we transform "found" words and phrases into an original text?

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 14" sheet of printer or construction paper (1 per student)
- White 8.5" x 14" sheet of thick paper (cardstock, poster board, or water media paper)
- Watercolour paints and brush
- Pencil
- Eraser
- Optional: Thick pencil or graphite stick
- Black drawing tool such as oil pastel, sharpie, or China marker
- Drawing tool in 2 dark colours such as oil pastels
- Optional: Water soluble drawing tool in 2 dark colours (i.e. watercolour pencils, water soluble pastels, washable Crayola markers)
- Tape

Curricular Competencies: What students will DO

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

- Create an original text and a mixed-media drawing using collaborative and individual processes and using ideas inspired by inquiry, observation, and purposeful play (**Visual Arts, Grades 7-9**)
- Select and combine elements and principles of the arts to intentionally create a particular meaning (**Visual Arts, Grades 7-9**)
- Reflect on works of art and creative processes to make connections to personal learning and experiences (**Visual arts, Grades 7-9**)
- Analyze design choices in artistic works (**Art Studio 11**)
- Respond to text in personal, creative, and critical ways (**English Language Arts, Grades 7-9**)
- Transform ideas and information to create original texts (**English Language Arts, Grades 7-9**)

Concepts and Content: What students will KNOW

Students will know the following concepts and content:

- Elements and principles of art and design including line, repetition, and variety (**Visual Arts, Grades 7-12**)
- Creative processes for making works of visual art including selection and combination (**Art Studio 11**)

Core Competencies (suggested questions for reflection)

- COMMUNICATION: How does it feel when others interpret your original text or artwork in unexpected or unintended ways?
- THINKING: What are creative strategies (visual and text-based) that you can use to communicate meanings in a text?
- PERSONAL AND SOCIAL: How does it differ to collaboratively generate ideas for an artwork, in comparison to developing ideas individually? How does a collaborative process impact the outcome?

Suggested Descriptive Feedback

- Nora observes works of visual art and describes ways in which artists use materials and make design choices to communicate and create meaning.
- Nora contributes her ideas about works of visual art to the group and asks thoughtful questions.
- Nora uses collaborative and individual processes to create original texts and artworks.
- Nora has explored processes for creating a mixed-media drawing including collaborative idea generation, selection, and combination.