



AFK Gallery Program for Grades K-3:

Outdoor Artmaking

Activity:

In this 60-minute lesson students will explore connections between art, play, and place-based learning. Students will draw inspiration from artists **Anne Meredith Barry** and **Andy Goldsworthy**, making use of objects found outside to create original works of land art. Students will then visit two artmaking stations, experimenting with found mark-making tools, drawing with ink, drawing from observation, and drawing with water-soluble graphite. Each student will create a mixed-media drawing that they can later add details to in the classroom using media such as oil pastels, chalk pastels, or pencil crayons (see below for samples of completed student artwork).

Inquiry Question:

What do we learn when we play?

Activity Overview:

- As a group, discuss the question: What do we learn when we play?
- View laminated images of artwork by Anne Meredith Barry and Andy Goldsworthy
- Discuss and demonstrate, as a group, how to collect natural objects and use them to re-create and respond to elements of artworks by Anne Meredith Barry
- Students work in groups of 2-3 to create works of land art on the ground next to laminated artworks (see image, below)
- Divide group into 2 stations: Ink Station and Graphite Station
- Ink Station: Students collect 1 small stick and 2 natural objects. On a sheet of watercolour paper, students create drawings of their 2 natural objects, dipping their stick into jars of ink. Students can experiment with adding water to their ink drawings.
- Graphite Station: Students collect 2 natural objects and draw them on a sheet of watercolour paper using water soluble graphite. Students can dip their piece of graphite into buckets of water and experiment with adding water to their drawings.
- The 2 groups switch stations, bringing their sheet of paper with them to the other station.
- Recap learning and view student artwork: What have you discovered about drawing with ink? What have you discovered about drawing with graphite?



Example of land art created by grade 2 student in response to the art of Anne Meredith Barry.



Example of mixed media drawing created by grade 2 student, Cleveland Elementary.



Example of mixed media drawing created by grade 2 student, Cleveland Elementary.

Materials:

- Black India ink in 4-5 small jars
- Water soluble graphite (enough sticks for half the class)
- 7" x 11" sheets of water colour paper (1 per student)
- 2-3 large plastic buckets
- Plastic coverings for tables
- 11" x 17" Laminated images of artworks by Anne Meredith Barry and Andy Goldsworthy

Curricular Competencies: What students will DO

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

- Create works of land art and mixed media drawings inspired by artists Anne Meredith Barry and Andy Goldsworthy as well as imagination, experimentation, and purposeful play **(Visual Arts, Grades K-3)**
- Explore materials and tools in the visual arts including found natural objects, India ink, and water-soluble graphite **(Visual Arts, Grades K-3)**
- Describe and respond to visual artworks and express ideas about visual art **(Visual Arts, Grades K-3)**

Concepts and Content: What students will KNOW

Students will know the following concepts and content:

- Elements and principles in art used to create land art and mixed media drawings including: line, colour, shape, texture, and pattern **(Visual Arts, Grades K-3)**

First Peoples Principles of Learning

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

Core Competencies

- **COMMUNICATION:** Students engage in informal and structured conversations in which they listen, contribute, develop understanding and relationships, and learn to consider diverse perspectives.
- **THINKING:** Students generate creative ideas through free play, engagement with other's ideas, and the consideration of a problem or constraint. Students get ideas when they use their senses to explore.

Suggested Descriptive Feedback

- Nora observes works of visual art and can reflect on key ideas and elements in art including colour, pattern, and texture.
- Nora contributes her ideas about works of visual art to the group and asks thoughtful questions.
- Nora is learning about processes and tools required for creating mixed-media drawings and land art. She has applied this learning to create outdoor sculptures and installations as well as a drawing using found mark-making tools, ink, and water-soluble graphite.