



Subject Area: Visual Art	Course: Curriculum C		
Unit 1 Title: Me in a Jar	Grade(s): 7	Start: August	End: October
Unit Summary: In this unit, artists consider how they can represent themselves <i>symbolically</i> and express their unique <i>cultural heritage</i> as they develop their spatial awareness and drawing skills. Students drew their own jars, with the option to trace jar templates, and learned about <i>overlapping</i> as a technique for creating the <i>illusion of three-dimensional space</i> as they attempted to create the illusion of at least 5 personal symbols stacking on top of one another to fill up their Jar. Students refined their artwork and practiced <i>presenting</i> their artwork both digitally and in a school-wide collaborative display. Finally, artists express their intended meanings and reflect on their work and process in a written or modified artist's statement.			

Stage 1: Desired Results

Massachusetts Learning Standards

7th-8th Grade Visual Art Standards

Creating

1. Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work. Generate artistic ideas that demonstrate differences in composition principles (e.g., balance, proportion, emphasis) and push the boundaries of what materials can do. (7-8.V.Cr.01)
2. Organize and develop artistic ideas and work. Develop clear artistic plans that others could implement. (7-8.V.Cr.02)
3. Refine and complete artistic work. Apply strategies to work through creative blocks. (7-8.V.Cr.03)

Presenting

4. Select, analyze, and interpret artistic work for presentation. Curate a theme-based exhibition. (7-8.V.P.04)
5. Develop and refine artistic techniques and work for presentation. Utilize different approaches to share artwork (e.g., digital portfolio, exhibit installation). (7-8.V.P.05)
6. Convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work. Match a piece of artwork with expressed intent (e.g., wanting the audience to feel tension between two positions). (7-8.V.P.06)

Responding

8. Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work. Explain how an artistic work was influenced by the culture or historical context in which it was created. (7-8.V.R.08)

Connecting

10. Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art. Describe and demonstrate influences of personal artistic style and preferences in visual arts. (7-8.V.Co.10)

11. Relate artistic ideas and works to societal, cultural and historical contexts to deepen understanding. Identify visual ideas from a variety of cultures connected to different historical populations. (7-8.V.Co.11)

[Vision of a Graduate Performance Outcome\(s\)](#)

Transfer (Authentic, relevant application of learning to new situations)

Students will be able to independently use their learning to...

- Create a drawing that expresses their cultural heritage and values
- Present their work to the community in an art display and on a digital portfolio
- Reflect on work and process via an Artist's Statement

Meaning

Enduring Understandings

Students will understand that...

- Presentation of one's art impacts an audience's perception of the work
- Symbols have powerful meaning in society, some have universal connections and others are personal.
- Artists' cultural heritage can often be expressed through their artwork

Essential Questions

Students will consider...

- How does presentation impact the way an artwork is received/the way an artist can influence their viewer?
- How do artists express ideas?
- How does cultural heritage influence how artists express themselves?

Acquisition

Knowledge	Skills
Students will know... • Brainstorming techniques: ◦ thumbnail sketches ◦ light table or iPad to transfer and image • Spatial illusion techniques: ◦ Overlapping ◦ Composition ◦ Proportion ◦ edge choices • Digital Portfolio Techniques: ◦ Photographing artwork for display ◦ Creating Art Tiles ◦ Writing Artist's Statements • Executive Functioning in the Art Studio: ◦ entry and exit procedures ◦ artwork and sketchbooks storage ◦ set up and clean up their workspace ◦ drawing materials including sharpies, crayons, and colored pencils. • Media & Visual Culture and its impact on consumers • Careers in Art: ◦ Graphic Design ◦ Advertising ◦ Web and game design ◦ Industrial design • Artists that utilize symbols: ◦ Keith Haring ◦ Frida Kahlo ◦ Pablo Picasso ◦ Salvador Dali ◦ Jenny Holzer ◦ Barbara Kruger ◦ Guerilla Girls	Students will be skilled at... • Drawing using symbols • Using classroom materials • Presenting artwork to the community • Writing a personal Artist Statement • Reflecting on artistic process and artistic choices • Persisting/Refining artwork for presentation • Setting up and cleaning up workspace