

Keith Haring Social Cause Poster

Grade - 5

Ohio Academic Content Standards addressed in this lesson:

Historical, Cultural, Social Contexts – A, B, C

Creative Expression & Communication – A, B, D

Analyzing & Responding – A, C

Valuing the Arts/ Aesthetic Reflection – A, B, C

Connections, Relationships & Applications - B

Description of essential educational content contained in this lesson:

Through this lesson, students will explore various social causes that are relevant to their lives. Students will also study and discuss the work of artist Keith Haring.

Performance-Based Objectives:

- Students will discuss the work of Keith Haring.
- Students will pick an important social cause to make art about.
- Students will use symbolism to help relate their message in their poster.
- Students will

Vocabulary:

Keith Haring – Artist who is famous for using simplified, line based artwork. Haring created work that often addressed important social causes.

Social Cause – A practice or event that can potentially be changed. For example, I can create artwork that could potentially encourage people to stop smoking, but I cannot create artwork that would encourage a hurricane to not hit major cities.

Symbolism – The practice of using one image to represent or symbolize an idea, etc.

Preparations:

- Get out copies for the 1998 *Scholastic Art* magazine for students to read together.
- Put up bulletin board with Haring's work and appropriate vocabulary.
- Cut paper 18"x18".

Procedures for the Teaching/Learning Structure:

Day 1: Begin discussion of Keith Haring

1. Distribute Scholastic Art magazines to be shared by students.
 - a. Read 2 articles in the magazine and discuss Haring's life and work.
 - i. Describe Haring's work. How is it different than other work we've studied?
 - ii. What does Haring make artwork about?
 - iii. What is a social cause? What are some important social causes that are relevant now?
 - iv. What is symbolism and how does Haring use it in his work?
2. Students will brainstorm social cause ideas during studio time.
 - a. After picking an idea, students will begin sketching ideas for a poster based on Haring's work.

Day 2: Studio Work

1. Review Keith Haring and social causes. Brainstorm more social cause ideas for students who are struggling.
 - a. Have a list of ideas on the chalk board/screen?
2. Students will continue sketching poster ideas.
3. When sketches are finished, I will check them and allow students to begin their final drawing.

Day 3 – end of project:

1. Students will be painting their work once the final drawing is finished and approved.
2. Markers will be used to outline the finished painting in order to clean up edges.
3. Students will write an artist statement that will be attached to the back of their artwork.

Project Guidelines:

- Each student will create a poster about a social cause.
- The poster will be in the style of Keith Haring.
- No words will be used in the poster.
- Ideas should be expressed with images and symbolism.
- The project will be painted using tempera paints.