

GRASSHOPPER

Artful Tales with Olivia

Description:

In this series we will explore the creative process of combining art + storytelling= using art to tell a story, symbolize something, or represent an idea or topic. We will engage with various art mediums and activities to experiment with different ways in which we can combine telling stories through art!

***Please note that this content can be adapted in length and focus to fit what is needed. For example: Single workshop focus on one activity only, shorter series, focusing only on specific activities etc.

Topics

Block Printing (cardboard + presto Foam + upcycled Materials + cardstock + glue + acrylic paint)

Negative Space + Collage (magazine clippings + stenciling + acrylic paint)

Kintsugi Art (paper + marker/paint/pencil)

Household Art (paper + sponges + q-tips + bottle caps, etc.)

Pop Up Cards (cardstock paper + glue + scissors + markers/pencils)

Sliding Cards(cardstock paper + glue + scissors + markers/pencils)

Flip Books (cardstock paper + glue + scissors + markers/pencils)

Magic Flashlight (marker/pencil + clear projector paper +cardstock)

Tunnel Books (cardstock + marker/pencil/paint)

Art + Plants (Terracotta pots + Acrylic Paint + Soil + Seeds/Plant Starters/Succulents)

Diorama- rama (cardstock + markers + glue + scissors)

Series Outline

1. **Week 1: Introduction to Creative Exploration** (Block Printing Accordion Book)
 - Discuss what it means to be a creator and what exploration involves.
 - Activity: Create a "Creator's Passport" where kids document their journey.
 - Guided brainstorming session to generate project ideas.
 - Discussion on environmental impact and benefits of recycling in art.

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2. **Week 2: Negative Space + Collage Part 1**

3. **Week 3: Negative Space + Collage Part 2**

4. **Week 4: Kintsugi Art**

5. **Week 5: Household Art**

6. **Week 6: Pop Up Cards**

7. **Week 7: Sliding Cards**

8. **Week 8: Flip Books**

9. **Week 9: Magic Flashlight**

10. **Week 10: Tunnel Books**

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11. **Week 11: Art + Plants Part 1**

12. **Week 12: Art + Plants Part 2**

12. **Week 12: Diorama-rama**

Lesson Plans

- Briefly discuss the concept of storytelling through art.
- Share examples of famous artwork that tell stories (e.g., "Starry Night" by Van Gogh, "American Gothic" by Grant Wood).

Lesson Plan #1: Block Printing w Recycled Materials (1 hour lesson)

1. Introduction (5 minutes)

- Briefly introduce the concept of mixed media art and explain how it involves using a combination of different materials and techniques.
- Discuss the importance of recycling and how we can use recycled materials in art.

2. Exploration and Brainstorming (10 minutes)

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- Allow kids to explore a wide range of recycled materials (e.g. paper, fabric, plastic, cardboard).
- Facilitate a group brainstorming discussion about possible ideas for mixed media art projects. Encourage imaginative thinking.
- Show different “trash” materials and ask them to brainstorm more items that appear as trash.

3. Planning and Sketching (10 minutes)

- Have students create an accordion folded “book” with cardstock
- Have students select the materials they are most interested in using.
- Have students create 2–3 printing plates, by gluing their materials onto a piece of cardboard
- show examples of various techniques and ideas

4. Creation Time: Upcycled Block Print “Passport Book” (25 minutes)

- Guide students to begin working on their block printing project
- Encourage experimentation, such as layering different materials, combining textures, and integrating unexpected elements. Ask them to think about if there is a story or specific image they are trying to create.

5. Share and Reflect (10 minutes)

- Allow students to display their completed mixed media artworks.
- Facilitate a discussion about their creations, focusing on the materials chosen, challenges faced, and what they learned through the process of experimentation and exploration.

Lesson Plan #2: Block Printing w Presto Foam (1 hour lesson)

1. Introduction (5 minutes)

- Briefly introduce the concept of professional block prints and the process + materials involved.
- Introduce Presto Foam as a way to work up to engraving onto rubber when more advanced.
- Discuss the importance of finding different ways + materials to create different kinds of art

2. Exploration and Brainstorming (10 minutes)

- Show examples of block prints done w/ presto foam
- Pass out foam to allow students to feel/see texture

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- Have students practice creating different sizes, shapes, lines, using different pressure, widths, depths etc., as they engrave.

- Ask them to reflect how is this material different from the materials we used week before.

3. Planning and Sketching (10 minutes)

- Have students create different designs on their presto foam and block print into their accordion books
- Have them create 2-3 de accordion folded "book" with cardstock
- show examples of various techniques and ideas

4. Creation Time: Presto Foam block prints (25 minutes)

- Guide students to begin working on their block printing project
- Encourage experimentation, such as layering colors etc.
- Ask students to think of a story they'd like to tell through their designs.

5. Share and Reflect (10 minutes)

- Allow students to display their completed mixed media artworks.
- Facilitate a discussion about their creations and stories, challenges faced, and what they learned through the process of experimentation and exploration.

Materials List

6. Bonus Movement activity:

Ask them to walk around and do a movement/dance interpretation of what they see as they observe each person's art.

Lesson Plan #3: Negative Space + Collage Part 1

1. Introduction (5 minutes)

- Review the concept of collaging
- Introduce the materials
- Show examples of in process + final

2. Exploration and Brainstorming (10 minutes)

- How might we use collaging to tell a story?
- Have students decide on a personal theme

3. Planning and Sketching (10 minutes)

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- Pass out materials (magazines + glue)

4. Creation Time: Collaging (25 minutes)

- Have students create their collage
- Walk around to guide/help

5. Share and Reflect (10 minutes)

- Allow students to display and show their collages
- Facilitate a discussion about their creations and stories, challenges faced, and what they learned through the process of experimentation and exploration.

Lesson Plan #4: Negative Space + Collage Part 2

1. Introduction (5 minutes)

- Introduce the concept of “negative space” in art
- Introduce the materials
- Show examples of in process + final

2. Exploration and Brainstorming (10 minutes)

- How might we use negative space to guide what we want the focus of our collage to be? How can this help us tell a story?
- Have students decide on a personal theme

3. Planning and Sketching (10 minutes)

- Pass out materials (cardstock + acrylic paint/brushes + pencils)
- Have students create their negative space stencil

4. Creation Time: Negative Space Collaging Part 2 (25 minutes)

- Have students cut their stencil, draw the outline, paint around the stencil line
- Walk around to guide/help

5. Share and Reflect (10 minutes)

- Allow students to display and show their negative space art collages
- Facilitate a discussion about their creations and stories, challenges faced, and what they learned through the process of experimentation and exploration.

Lesson Plan #5 Kintsugi Art

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1. Introduction (5 minutes)

- Introduce the concept and practice of Kintsugi and it's history
- Introduce the materials
- Show examples of in process + final

2. Exploration and Brainstorming (10 minutes)

- How might we use the concept of Kintsugi (golden joinery) to tell a story?
- Have students decide on a personal theme, represented by a shape, and how they envision "breaking" it apart and then putting it back together

3. Planning and Sketching (10 minutes)

- Pass out materials (cardstock + acrylic paint/brushes + pencils/markers + glue + scissors)
- Have students create the first part: an entire shape cut out

4. Creation Time: Kintsugi Art (25 minutes)

- Have students work on dividing + "breaking" up their entire shape
- Have students join their shape back together by using the other materials to "join" and "fill" the cracks in
- Walk around to guide/help

5. Share and Reflect (10 minutes)

- Allow students to display and show their Kintsugi art
- Facilitate a discussion about their creations and stories, challenges faced, and what they learned through the process of experimentation and exploration.

Lesson Plan #6 Household Art

1. Introduction (5 minutes)

- Introduce the concept using everyday household items to create art
- Show examples of in process + final

2. Exploration and Brainstorming (10 minutes)

- Introduce the materials
- What are some other items that you might find in the house that you could paint with?

3. Planning and Sketching (10 minutes)

- Pass out materials (cardstock + various items + acrylic paint)

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- Have students experiment first with different shapes and textures they can create using these unconventional tools
- Have students think of a theme they want to create

4. Creation Time: Household Art (25 minutes)

- Have students create their art only using their non-conventional
- Walk around to guide/help

5. Share and Reflect (10 minutes)

- Allow students to display and show their household art creations.
- Facilitate a discussion about their creations and stories, challenges faced, and what they learned through the process of experimentation and exploration.

Lesson Plan #7 Pop Up Cards

1. Introduction (5 minutes)

- Introduce the concept of 3D paper art + pop up cards
- Show examples of in process + final

2. Exploration and Brainstorming (10 minutes)

- Introduce the materials
- What are some examples of 3D art you can think of?

3. Planning and Sketching (10 minutes)

- Pass out materials
- Have students think of a theme they want to create for the card

4. Creation Time: Household Art (25 minutes)

- Guide students to create their personalized pop-up cards
- Walk around to guide/help

5. Share and Reflect (10 minutes)

- Allow students to display and show their pop-up cards.
- Facilitate a discussion about their creations and stories, challenges faced, and what they learned through the process of experimentation and exploration.

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Lesson Plan #8 Sliding Cards

1. Introduction (5 minutes)

- Introduce the concept of interactive moving paper art
- Show examples of in process + final

2. Exploration and Brainstorming (10 minutes)

- Introduce the materials
- What are some examples of art that you can think of that you can interact with and/or that moves after it's done being created?

3. Planning and Sketching (10 minutes)

- Pass out materials
- Have students think of a theme they want to create

4. Creation Time: Household Art (25 minutes)

- Guide students create their sliding card art
- Walk around to guide/help

5. Share and Reflect (10 minutes)

- Allow students to display and show their sliding card art.
- Facilitate a discussion about their creations and stories, challenges faced, and what they learned through the process of experimentation and exploration.

Lesson Plan #9 Flip Books

1. Introduction (5 minutes)

- Introduce the concept of flip books , and how art can also be educational
- Show examples of in process + final

2. Exploration and Brainstorming (10 minutes)

- Introduce the materials
- What are some examples of art that also teaches you something?

3. Planning and Sketching (10 minutes)

- Pass out materials
- Have students think of a simple concept they want to teach or show

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4. Creation Time: Flip books art (25 minutes)

- Have students create their flip books
- Walk around to guide/help

5. Share and Reflect (10 minutes)

- Allow students to display and show their flip books.
- Facilitate a discussion about their creations and stories, challenges faced, and what they learned through the process of experimentation and exploration.

Lesson Plan #10 Magic Flashlight

1. Introduction (5 minutes)

- Introduce the concept how art can sometimes create optical illusions
- Show examples of in process + final

2. Exploration and Brainstorming (10 minutes)

- Introduce the materials
- What is something that you cannot usually see in the dark?

3. Planning and Sketching (10 minutes)

- Pass out materials
- Have students think of a theme (under the sea, cats, dragons, etc.)

4. Creation Time: Flip books art (25 minutes)

- Have students create their base, then flashlight with cardstock
- Walk around to guide/help

5. Share and Reflect (10 minutes)

- Allow students to display and show their magic flashlight art.
- Facilitate a discussion about their creations and stories, challenges faced, and what they learned through the process of experimentation and exploration.

Lesson Plan #11 Diorama-rama

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Additional Ideas:

****Week 1: Introduction to Art and Storytelling****

- Discuss how art can be a form of storytelling.
- Explore famous artworks that tell stories (e.g., Starry Night by Van Gogh, Guernica by Picasso).
- Create a collaborative mural where each child contributes a story from their imagination.

****Week 2: Personal Narrative through Art****

- Teach what a personal narrative is by sharing examples of artists who tell personal stories.
- Encourage students to draw or paint a significant personal memory.
- Have a show-and-tell session where each child shares the story behind their creation.

****Week 3: Visual Storytelling Basics****

- Discuss elements like characters, setting, and plot in visual storytelling.
- Create simple storyboards using comic strip templates.
- Experiment with digital tools to produce short visual stories.

****Week 4: Characters in Art****

- Analyze famous character art from folklore and literature.
- Facilitate a character design workshop where kids invent their own fairy tale or superhero character.
- Organize a character parade where kids present their creations with brief descriptions.

****Week 5: Story Structures****

- Discuss different story structures (e.g., beginning, middle, end).
- Use paper folding techniques to create a three-part story booklet.
- Invite a local author or artist to share how they structure stories through art.

****Week 6: Creating Mood and Emotion in Art****

- Explore artworks that effectively convey mood or emotion.
- Experiment with colors and shapes to express a range of emotions.
- Lead an activity where kids create a self-portrait reflecting a chosen emotion.

****Week 7: Culture and Storytelling through Art****

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- Discuss how different cultures use art to tell stories.
- Study traditional art forms (e.g., Aboriginal dot paintings, African tribal art).
- Conduct an art project using techniques or themes from a different culture.

****Week 8: Techniques & Mediums****

- Explore various mediums (e.g., watercolor, charcoal, mixed media) and how they influence storytelling.
- Organize a workshop where kids try out multiple techniques to depict a chosen story.
- Create a group gallery walk to showcase different mediums and techniques.

****Week 9: Collaborative Story Creation****

- Form small groups to brainstorm and create a cohesive story using both text and visuals.
- Use large posters or digital tools to help teams storyboard their collective narrative.
- Present final projects to the class or a larger audience for feedback and appreciation.

****Week 10: Reflections and Gallery Exhibition****

- Review and reflect on what was learned about art and storytelling.
- Organize a class exhibition featuring all individual and group works.
- Host a storytelling circle where students share stories inspired by their art, facilitated by visiting storytellers or parents.

Adaptations for Different Ages

- Younger children may use simpler shapes and colors to tell their stories; assist them in articulating their narrative.
- Older children can focus on more complex narratives and explore advanced art techniques such as perspective or shading.

Movement Break

- "Storytelling Charades": Students act out a part of their personal story without speaking, while others guess the story being portrayed.

Bonus Activities

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- Create a collaborative mural where each student contributes a piece of their personal narrative to a larger class story.
- Organize a small art exhibit where family and friends can view the students' completed works and hear their narratives.

For additional support, reference this [experience outline template](#) which includes tips and prompts to help you develop and lead an excellent Grasshopper Kids experience.

Note: This lesson plan outline was drafted by Hopper. If you would like to see different results, you can [submit another idea](#), or text us with feedback so we can work to make the algorithm better. We built this tool to help save you time in bringing more kids enrichment experience ideas to life!

