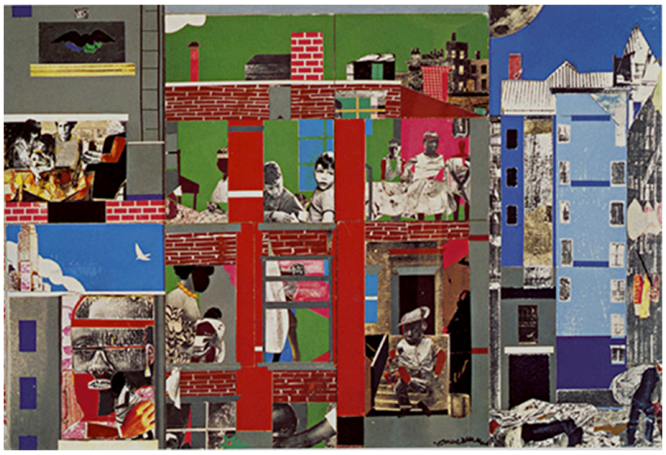
Cityscapes

Spring MAEA Conference Presentation

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Lesson Overview: Students will create their own cityscape after viewing and discussing (VTS: Visual Thinking Strategy) several collages by Romare Bearden, an African-American artist.

Essential Questions:



- How does knowing the contexts, histories, & traditions of art forms help us create works of art & design? (Create)
- How can the viewer "read" a work of art as text? (Respond)
- How does knowing & using visual art vocabularies help us understand & interpret works of art? (Respond)
- How does engaging in creating art enrich people's lives? (Connect)
- How does art help us understand the lives of people of different times, places, and cultures? (Connect)
- How does art preserve aspects of life? (Connect)

Priority Standard: CREATE (Organize and develop artistic ideas and work)
Standard: Skill Acquisition: Create personally satisfying artwork using a variety of artistic processes and materials.

Supporting Standards:

Creating Interactions with Art: Individually or collaboratively construct representations, diagrams, or maps of places that are part of everyday life. VA:Cr2C.3



Reflect ~ Refine ~ Continue: Elaborate visual information by adding details in an artwork to enhance emerging meaning. VA:Cr3A.3

Perceive (and analyze artistic work): Speculate about processes an artist uses to create a work of art. VA:Re7A.3

Analyze: Determine messages communicated by an image. VA:Re7B.3

Synthesize (and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art): Develop a work of art based on observations of surroundings. VA:Cn10A.3

Student Friendly Objective: I can create a building by stamping straight lines.

Google Slides: 3--Cityscapes

Supplies needed:

- Old book pages: dictionaries, encyclopedia, books, maps, sheet music
- Rectangular cardboard pieces of various sizes for stamping
- Black tempera paint on a tray or paper plate
- Scissors
- Glue
- 12x18 construction paper in various sky colors
- Sharpies
- Watercolor paint, brushes

Day 1: Analyze collages by Romare Bearden, allowing students to come up and point out areas of the artworks that catch their eyes and explaining why. As they point out interesting details, many students will begin formulating a story that helps them to make sense of the artwork. Compare and contrast the cityscapes, finding objects that are repeated and how they are different.
Introduce Romare Bearden to the students with the info slide and slide about The Block set of collages. Share the collages featuring his beloved jazz music and musicians. Romare Bearden even helped to write some song lyrics!
Students will choose book pages for buildings, write their names on the pages and store them in their folder for the next week. How do the book pages help create the atmosphere of a city?
Day 2: Look over the city collages by Romare Bearden to review, then demonstrate using the edge of cardboard pieces dipped in black tempera paint to print/stamp buildings onto book pages/maps. Doors, windows, chimneys, and fire escapes can also be stamped onto their buildings. As the students are working, play some jazz music!
Day 3: Review the cityscapes of Romare Bearden again and demo adding details, cutting out the buildings, and arranging on the large paper. Students will cut out buildings, add details with Sharpie, glue to 12x18 background, and paint with watercolors. What details can they add to their collage to tell a story? (There are photos of city streets at the end of the slide show)

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

We are basically using trash items for our art that many people would simply throw away. I show the kids an encyclopedia or old book and explain that we are going to use the pages. The book is old and outdated, but not old enough to be an antique or collectible. Many people would throw the book away. A step up would be to put it in the recycling bin, but we are going 10 steps up by REUSING the book to CREATE ART!

Dried out markers are another item that is routinely thrown away, but my students love to bring them to the marker cemetery: a basket with a RIP tombstone for Dead Markers. I show them the mayo or peanut butter jars with colorful water and soaking markers and they love to use the homemade watercolors in their artworks! Add a few drops of rubbing alcohol to the water/marker combo to avoid growing mold/slime!