



Brightwater Site

Brightwater Grade 6 Art Programming

Visual Art

Instructor: Kevin Quinlan

This list of lessons is not set in a specific order. Ideas can be used on their own or in groups.

- Teachers can select the exercises that fit with their particular program or new ideas can be tailor made to connect with things the students are doing in their homeroom class.
- Each drawing exercise will include introduction to materials and techniques. Students will learn the methods of classical drawing as well as the importance of good observation.
- Each painting exercise will introduce the student to painting techniques, composition, colour theory and the creation of an interesting image that will engage the viewer.

Grade 6 students will use visual representation of individuals, plants and animals to express identity as it relates to the natural environment. Inquiry is a natural part of the process in the creation of the art piece. Working on location requires a new set of solutions every time.

1) 'Reflected Images' painting on location at the creek (natural environment)

A visual study connecting the creek bank and the growth on it to the water of the creek and the shapes it creates. Students will use a combination of wet and dry watercolour technique. Each student will complete 2 watercolour studies with the emphasis on the combinations of colours, textures and shapes in the natural environment.

Medium: watercolour on watercolour paper

2) 'Prairie sky and the Changing Horizon' painting on location on the hill (farmland)

Studies in composition and colour. This work can be done with oil pastel or watercolour. Three studies will be completed with the emphasis on a natural response to the subject. The landscape changes minute by minute as we work so the artist must be selective in their response. Students will learn to simplify the image by showing what is most important.

Medium: oil pastel on paper or watercolour on watercolour paper

3) 'You Bug Me' insect illustration

The study of entomology is greatly enhanced when the student understands the structure of the insect and the way the insect's body is physically adapted to its environment. Students will look for their insect of choice, observe and make quick sketches. The sketches can be carried back to the studio and used as reference along with photos of the insect to create finished full colour illustrations of various bugs. The illustrations can be enhanced with backgrounds or the addition of artistic elements.

Medium: oil pastel on paper or coloured pencil

4) 'Drawing Animals of the Prairie'

Using photo reference students will learn to draw the animals with attention to structure and anatomy as well as movement and spirit of the animal. Students will learn to use the flowing line to create textures of fur and feathers. Attention will be given to animals indigenous to the prairie ecosystem.

Medium: pencil or charcoal on paper.

5) 'Snow Scenes'

Students will create full colour drawings and paintings of the prairie landscape covered in snow. Attention will be paid to the way the snow lies on the landscape as well as techniques used to show different textures and light effects on snow. Students will be encouraged to add living beings to the image to show people, birds or animals in the winter landscape. How are living beings effected by snow.

Medium: pencil, watercolour, oil pastel or chalk pastel on watercolour paper

6) 'Mask Making'

Students will create form fitting masks using masking tape. Once the masks are fitted to the individual's face the tape can be used to sculpt the mask into a variety of shapes. Human faces, cats, bears or spirit faces can all be done using this technique. The masks are painted using acrylic paint and additional textures (hair, clothing etc.) can be added as the work progresses. The masks are made during the workshop and can be painted with acrylic paint at a later date. **This workshop could connect with performing arts workshops.**

Medium: masking tape, gesso, acrylic paint and sewing elastic

7) 'Animals in Clay'

Students will create sculptures of prairie animals. They will learn the use of temporary armatures that can be used to support the clay while it is wet and be removed before the sculpture is fired. Techniques in three dimensional sculptures will be explored including showing movement in the subject, creating form and texture with the clay and making the structure strong. The resulting sculptures must be dried completely then they can be fired and painted or glazed.

Medium: medium fire clay, wood, watercolour and varnish or glazes