



Brightwater Site

Brightwater Grade 7 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.
- Each sculpture exercise will include three dimensional observation and structural techniques.

Grade 7 students will create visual artworks that express ideas about the importance of place, relationships to the land and local geography. They will investigate and use various art forms, images and art making processes. Workings on location grade 7 students investigate how indigenous artists reflect the importance of place relationships to the land and local geography.

1) 'Birds of the Prairies' students will observe birds in their natural habitat and create images that show the bird in its particular environment. Students will walk through the grounds and make visual field notes with sketches showing actions of the birds and its living and feeding arrangements. Short notes with verbal descriptions can be added as well. The sketches are used as reference to create compositions that speak about the specific birds. Students can also use photos and other images to produce their final bird illustrations in the studio.

Medium: pencil or pen and watercolour on watercolour paper

2) **'Plants'** working on location students will create "field note" style sketches of different plants. Attention will be paid to the gesture of each plant as well as anatomical structure and the growth pattern of each plant. Students will use various drawing and painting techniques to define and strengthen the image. Written information about the plant can be added beside the sketch as well. Students could draw the same plant at different times of the year and note the changes. Plant images can be combined together in many creative ways to create finished illustrations at a later date.

Medium: pencil, pen and watercolour

3) **'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

4) **'The Creek Bank as an apartment building'** students will observe the creek bank and the creatures that live on, in and around it. They will then create a cartoon style illustration of life in the creek bank using images of the actual animals that live in it. Humorous images will be encouraged. The cartoons can be one frame or a three frame comic strip.

Medium: pencil, pen and ink, drawing paper and small board

5) **'Beaver Dams'** The students will work on location to first draw then paint beaver dams. The interesting structures that make the dam and the shapes of the wood pieces should be shown. Attention is given to the way the beaver dam influences the environment.

Medium: pencil, oil pastel, charcoal, coloured pencil or charcoal

6) **'Drawing the Cougar and the Bobcat'** photo reference in studio
Students will learn to observe the important elements of each cat and to respond to each shape in a natural fluid way. The structure and anatomy of the cats will be discussed and drawing the cats will be demonstrated as the students work. Other animals could be used as subjects for this workshop as well.

Medium: pencil, coloured pencil or oil pastel

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 they are fired. Techniques in three dimensional sculpture will be explored including showing movement in the subject, creating form and texture with the clay and making the structure strong. The resulting sculptures can be fired and painted or glazed.

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