

Core Art Unit Organizer
4th Grade
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Art of Africa

State Standards:

1. Students recognize and use the visual arts as a form of communication.

Students will observe how African artists communicated through their artwork.

2. Students know and apply elements of art, principles of design, and sensory and expressive features of visual arts.

Students will observe how African artists used the elements and principles of art in their work.

Students will practice using the elements and principles of art in their own mask design.

3. Students know and apply visual arts materials, tools, techniques, and processes.

Students will use construction paper to create their own mask design.

4. Students relate the visual arts to various historical and cultural traditions.

Students will examine how African culture and religion influence art.

5. Students analyze and evaluate the characteristics, merits, and meanings of works of art.

Students will discuss the meanings behind African art.

Core Knowledge Standards:

The Art of Africa

Note the spiritual purposes and significance of many African works of art, such as masks used in ceremonies for planting, harvesting, or hunting.

Become familiar with examples of art from specific regions and peoples in Africa, such as

Antelope headdresses of Mali

Sculptures by Yoruba artists in the city of Ife

Ivory carvings and bronze sculptures of Benin

Previous Unit:

Islamic Art.

Next unit:

Art of China.

Resources:

Prints and digital images showing examples of African art.

Skills:

Students will be able to:

Design their own mask.

Recognize the religious significance of African art.

Assessments:

Periodic oral questioning.

Evaluation of student created mask.

Evaluation of African art writing assignment.

Habits of Mind:

1. Communication Skills

Discuss works of art.

-Discuss works of art.

-Express ideas and feelings through art.

-Describe and explain works of art.

-Exhibit works of art.

-Use the visual arts as a form of communication.

2. Elements of Art and Principles of Design

-Describe how, interpret and compare.

-Perceive art in terms of the elements and principles of art.

-Apply the elements and principles of art.

-Interpret and express feelings.

-Understand expressive features of the visual arts.

3. Manipulation and Observation- Process

- Observe and understand how.
- Use tools.
- Follow step by step.
- Measure and mix.
- Exercise safety.

4. Values and Attitudes

- Reason why.
- Understand art in terms of art history.
- Question, investigate, and observe.
- Perceive art in diverse cultures.
- Relate art to history and geography.
- Know that, locate, and find.

5. Critical Response Skills- Art Criticism and Aesthetics

- Ask "How do you know."
- Form useful questions, consider, and respond.
- Practice critical thinking.
- Question fairness under different conditions.
- Form and express a personal opinion.
- Inspect works of art.