

Art Education Lesson Plan

Subject Area and Title: Art, "Styrofoam Printmaking"

Level: Elementary School, Grades 3-5

Materials: books that express a cultural theme, thumbnail sheets, Styrofoam plates with adhesive backing, ballpoint pens, scissors, cardboard, ink, brayers, paper (can be plain white or construction paper)

Objectives:

- (1) To create a Styrofoam stamp reflecting a central theme from one of the books distributed in class. To produce a print from the Styrofoam stamp that exhibits a perception of the project.
- (2) To explore the material of Styrofoam and see how it can be used to make a stamp. To experience the use of a brayer with ink.
- (3) To engage students in a successful critique of the final outcome of the entire class' prints. To have students think critically together throughout the entire lesson.
- (4) To engage students in a basic understanding of the cultural theme from the book at their table. To have students gain an insight into a diverse cultural dimension.

Motivation: Students will be enthusiastic to create a Styrofoam print after completing their thumbnails of what they would like to construct. They will be excited to produce their own individual stamps which can be printed multiple times.

Questions a teacher might pose to his/her students:

1. Did any group in particular all create similar prints? Did any group all construct different prints?
2. Did anyone solve this problem abstractly? Does anyone know what abstract means?
3. Can someone point to a place on a print where there is positive space? Can someone point to a place on a print where there is negative space?
4. Is this a project you all would like to do again? Can anyone think of something they would like to make a Styrofoam print of? (Note: Teachers should always encourage students to come up with their own ideas for projects.)

Procedure: (Length of Project, 1 Session)

- (1) Give each table a different children's book that they can examine.
- (2) Let the students pass the book around the table and each decide on something they can create relating to the cultural theme of the book.
- (3) Give each student a sheet of thumbnails.
- (4) Each student should then sketch out what they would like to make their stamp of.
- (5) After teacher approves the sketches, the student can then get a piece of Styrofoam plate.
- (6) Each student should take a pen and draw from their sketch onto the Styrofoam plate.
- (7) When drawing is complete, student should take scissors and cut out the subject.
- (8) The student should then take off the adhesive backing to the Styrofoam and place it on a piece of cardboard. (Note: At this point, the student is complete with his/her stamp. However,

he/she can use the pen at this time to make any last minutes markings.)

(9) The student is now ready to make their Styrofoam print. The student should then go over to the ink station (which should be set up before starting).

(10) At the ink station, the student should roll a brayer in ink until the brayer is fully covered. He/She should then roll the brayer onto the Styrofoam stamp. (Note: The student may wish to use more than one colored ink. This is perfectly acceptable.)

(11) The student should then take a piece of paper and lay it over the Styrofoam stamp. The student should then rub his/her hands over the paper so the ink can transfer itself.

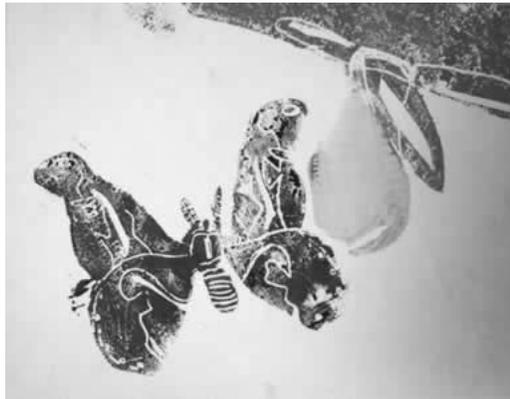
(12) The student can then slowly peel the paper back, separating it from the Styrofoam stamp.

(13) The final piece of artwork on the paper should then be hung up on the wall for the final discussion. (See Motivation questions)

Evaluation and Assessment: Since this project involves multiple steps and careful following of directions, the students will be evaluated based on their grasp of the project and final result. The product will yield how well they adhered to the process and what they have gotten out of the project.

Resources: Jacob Marrel's Admiral d'Hollande (1642), David Hockney's Ink in the Room (1993).

Extension: Have students go to the library, pick out their own book, and create a series of stamps on their own based on the central cultural theme of the book.



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http://eev2.liu.edu/nsa/m_s/teamportfolio/pages/lessonplanselementary/styrofoamprintmaking.htm