

Subject Area: Art and Design
Unit Title: Exploring Art Techniques and Self-Portraiture through Mixed Media
Grade Level: 6-8
Lesson Number: 1 of 10

Duration: 60 minutes
Date: March 10, 2023
Teacher: Ms. Jane Smith
Room: Art Studio

Curriculum Standards Alignment

Content Standards:

- Understand the elements and principles of art
- Apply art techniques and media to create artworks
- Analyze and interpret artworks from different cultures and historical periods

Skills Standards:

- Critical thinking and problem-solving
- Creativity and innovation
- Communication and collaboration

Cross-Curricular Links:

- Language Arts: writing and reflection
- Mathematics: geometry and measurement
- Science: materials and properties

Essential Questions & Big Ideas

Essential Questions:

- What are the elements and principles of art?
- How can art techniques and media be used to create artworks?
- What is the significance of self-portraiture in art?

Enduring Understandings:

- Art is a form of self-expression and communication
- Art techniques and media can be used to create unique and meaningful artworks
- Self-portraiture is a powerful tool for self-discovery and identity formation

Student Context Analysis

Class Profile:

- Total Students: 25
- ELL Students: 5
- IEP/504 Plans: 3
- Gifted: 2

Learning Styles Distribution:

- Visual: 40%
- Auditory: 30%
- Kinesthetic: 30%

Pre-Lesson Preparation

Room Setup:

- Arrange tables and chairs to facilitate group work
- Set up art stations with materials and supplies
- Prepare examples of mixed media artworks for inspiration

Technology Needs:

- Computers or tablets with internet access
- Art software or apps
- Printers and scanners

Materials Preparation:

- Paper and canvas
- Paints and markers
- Glue and scissors
- Fabric and found objects

Safety Considerations:

- Use of protective gear (gloves, goggles, etc.)
- Proper ventilation and cleanup
- Emergency procedures (fire extinguisher, first aid kit, etc.)

Detailed Lesson Flow

Pre-Class Setup (15 mins before)

- Set up room and materials
- Prepare technology and software
- Review lesson plan and objectives

Bell Work / Entry Task (5-7 mins)

- Welcome students and introduce topic
- Have students complete a quick warm-up activity (e.g. drawing, writing)
- Review objectives and agenda

Opening/Hook (10 mins)

- Show examples of mixed media artworks
- Introduce concept of self-portraiture
- Ask students to share their thoughts and ideas

Engagement Strategies:

- Think-pair-share
- Gallery walk
- Class discussion

Direct Instruction (20-25 mins)

- Demonstrate mixed media techniques
- Provide examples and explanations
- Have students follow along and practice

Checking for Understanding:

- Formative assessments
- Exit tickets
- Class discussions

Guided Practice (25-30 mins)

- Have students work in pairs or small groups
- Provide guidance and support as needed
- Encourage experimentation and creativity

Scaffolding Strategies:

- Providing templates or examples
- Offering one-on-one support
- Encouraging peer feedback

Independent Practice (20-25 mins)

- Have students work independently on their self-portraits
- Encourage experimentation and creativity
- Circulate around the room to provide support

Closure (10 mins)

- Have students share their self-portraits
- Provide feedback and encouragement
- Review objectives and key takeaways

Differentiation & Support Strategies

For Struggling Learners:

- Provide extra support and guidance
- Offer one-on-one instruction
- Use visual aids and examples

For Advanced Learners:

- Provide additional challenges and extensions
- Encourage independent research and exploration
- Offer opportunities for leadership and mentoring

ELL Support Strategies:

- Use visual aids and examples
- Provide bilingual resources and support
- Encourage peer support and collaboration

Social-Emotional Learning Integration:

- Encourage self-awareness and self-expression
- Teach empathy and understanding
- Model and promote positive relationships

Assessment & Feedback Plan

Formative Assessment Strategies:

- Observations and feedback
- Exit tickets and quizzes
- Class discussions and participation

Success Criteria:

- Students will demonstrate an understanding of mixed media techniques
- Students will create a self-portrait that showcases their personality and creativity
- Students will participate in class discussions and activities

Feedback Methods:

- Verbal feedback and encouragement
- Written feedback and comments
- Peer feedback and review

Homework & Extension Activities

Homework Assignment:

Have students create a mixed media self-portrait at home using materials and techniques learned in class.

Extension Activities:

- Research and create a report on a famous artist or art movement
- Create a mixed media artwork using recycled materials
- Design and create a mural or public art installation

Parent/Guardian Connection:

Encourage parents and guardians to ask their child about their self-portrait and what they learned in class.

Teacher Reflection Space

Pre-Lesson Reflection:

- What are my goals and objectives for this lesson?
- What materials and resources will I need?
- How will I differentiate instruction and support students?

Post-Lesson Reflection:

- What went well and what didn't?
- What would I change or improve for next time?
- What did students learn and achieve?

What is Mixed Media?

Mixed media art refers to the use of multiple materials and techniques to create a single artwork. This can include paint, markers, glue, scissors, fabric, and found objects, among others. Mixed media art allows artists to experiment with different textures, colors, and patterns, creating unique and complex artworks.

History of Mixed Media

Mixed media art has a long history, dating back to the early 20th century. Artists such as Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque experimented with mixed media techniques, combining paint, paper, and other materials to create innovative and groundbreaking artworks.

Types of Mixed Media

- Collage: combining paper and other materials to create a new whole
- Assemblage: combining three-dimensional objects to create a new artwork
- Mixed media painting: combining paint with other materials, such as paper or fabric

What is Self-Portraiture?

Self-portraiture is the practice of creating artworks that depict the artist themselves. This can be done using a variety of mediums, including paint, drawing, photography, and mixed media. Self-portraiture allows artists to explore their own identity, emotions, and experiences, creating deeply personal and meaningful artworks.

History of Self-Portraiture

Self-portraiture has a long history, dating back to ancient civilizations. Artists such as Leonardo da Vinci and Rembrandt created famous self-portraits, showcasing their skills and techniques. Today, self-portraiture continues to be a popular and expressive art form.

Types of Self-Portraiture

- Realistic self-portraiture: creating a realistic and accurate depiction of oneself
- Expressive self-portraiture: using art to express emotions and personality
- Abstract self-portraiture: using abstract shapes and colors to represent oneself

Activity 1: Introduction to Mixed Media

Provide students with a variety of materials, including paper, glue, scissors, and paint. Demonstrate how to combine these materials to create a simple collage. Have students work in pairs to create their own mixed media piece, encouraging them to experiment with different textures and colors.

Activity 2: Self-Portraiture Basics

Show students examples of famous self-portraits and discuss the importance of proportion, facial features, and expression. Provide students with a mirror and a piece of paper, and have them draw a basic self-portrait using pencils or markers. Then, introduce mixed media materials and have students add texture, color, and pattern to their self-portrait.

Activity 3: Exploring Texture

Provide students with a variety of materials, including fabric, paper, glue, and found objects. Demonstrate how to create different textures using these materials, such as layering, collaging, and embossing. Have students work in small groups to create a textured mixed media piece, encouraging them to experiment with different techniques.

Beginner Activity: Mixed Media Self-Portrait

Create a simple self-portrait using mixed media materials, focusing on basic facial features and proportions. Encourage students to experiment with different textures and colors.

Intermediate Activity: Textured Background

Create a textured background using mixed media materials, such as fabric, paper, or found objects. Then, add a self-portrait to the background, experimenting with different techniques and materials.

Advanced Activity: Layered Self-Portrait

Create a layered self-portrait using mixed media materials, experimenting with different techniques such as layering, collaging, and embossing. Encourage students to add depth and dimension to their self-portrait.

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Color Theory

Color theory refers to the study of color and its effects on art and design. In the context of mixed media, color theory can be used to create harmonious and balanced artworks. The color wheel is a fundamental tool in color theory, showing how colors are related and interact with each other.

Exploring Art Techniques and Self-Portraiture through Mixed Media

Exploring art techniques and self-portraiture through mixed media offers a wide range of creative possibilities for students. One example of an in-depth technique is collage-making, which involves combining different materials such as paper, fabric, and found objects to create a new whole. This technique can be used to create complex and layered self-portraits, allowing students to experiment with texture, color, and composition.

Common Errors and Misconceptions

When exploring art techniques and self-portraiture through mixed media, there are several common errors and misconceptions that students may encounter. One example is the misconception that mixed media art is only about combining different materials, without considering the overall composition and aesthetic of the artwork. To remediate this error, students can learn about the principles of composition, such as balance, contrast, and harmony, and how to apply them to their mixed media artworks.

Common FAQ

What is mixed media art, and how is it used in self-portraiture? Mixed media art refers to the use of multiple materials and techniques to create a single artwork. In self-portraiture, mixed media can be used to add depth, emotion, and personality to the artwork.

Learning Objectives

- Students will demonstrate an understanding of mixed media techniques and materials
- Students will create a self-portrait that showcases their personality and creativity
- Students will participate in class discussions and activities

Bloom's Taxonomy

- Remembering: recalling mixed media techniques and materials
- Understanding: understanding the concept of self-portraiture and its significance
- Applying: applying mixed media techniques to create a self-portrait
- Analyzing: analyzing and interpreting mixed media artworks
- Evaluating: evaluating and critiquing mixed media artworks
- Creating: creating a unique and original mixed media self-portrait

Assessment Rubric

- Content knowledge (40%): understanding of mixed media techniques and materials
- Creativity and originality (30%): uniqueness and creativity of self-portrait
- Technical skill (20%): demonstration of mixed media techniques and materials
- Participation and engagement (10%): participation in class discussions and activities