

Constructivist Lesson Plan

Student Teacher: Jessie Bayless School: Owensville Elementary

Subject Area: Art Grade Level: 4th

Observation Time: morning Date: 10-22-13

Standards (Performance and Knowledge):

What concepts do you want students to understand after completing this lesson?

Essential Question:

The elements of design: form, space, and shape. They will learn various folding techniques and build a 3D cube. Terms: city scape, positive and negative space, construction plans, architecture, community

Criteria for Success (How will you know students have gained the understanding of the concepts?):

The student will have constructed at least one 3D cube. They will make a list of the characteristics of their imagined city and compiled it with their assigned group members. They will design a city block plan in their groups. There will be individual and group verbal assessment of terms and concepts.

Resources: (What resources will you and your students use?)

Materials needed:

large cardboard pieces (2 foot x 2 foot) to hold cubes, group supplies and to construct their "city block,"

Construction paper pieces (3in x 6in) to construct cubes

2 pieces of drawing paper (8x11 each student and a 18in x 24in for each group)

Pictures of "City Scapes" and "Blocks"

regular glue (not glue sticks)

Engage: Capture the students' attention, stimulate their thinking and help them access prior knowledge.

Pre-thinking discussion questions (in large group): What do you find in a city? (ie: roads, signs, buildings [specific], lamp posts, parks, businesses [specific]).

View images of city scapes. Continue discussion. (writing ideas on board for visual)

Explore: Give students time to think, plan, investigate and organize collected information.

Give each student a piece of 8x11 drawing paper. Have them write and draw what they would have in "their city."

Explain: Involve students in an analysis of their explorations. Reflective activities clarify and modify their understanding.

Explain the next project (Building a Cube City). Pass out construction paper pieces and construct the cubes (separate lesson instructions). As they are building the cubes discuss

architecture and how the 3D form of the cubes will be the framework of their buildings. They will stack them on one another to create "space" and depth through the positive and negative spaces on their city block. Discuss the difference between a "form" having length, width and depth and a "shape" only having length and width. They are using 12 identical shapes (rectangles) to build/construct a 3D form.

Elaborate: Give students the opportunity to expand and solidify their understanding of the concept and/or apply it to a real-world situation.

After each student has successfully constructed at least one cube, put the students into their groups (no more than 5 per). Discuss and display the criteria for the city blocks (at least 3 different height structures and a 4 inch road running completely around the city). Also, hand out a rubric for the project (see attached). Finish the hour discussing and collaborating within their groups to design their city block. They will use each others' cubes and other accessory art supplies by the end. Today, they are to work together and discuss what they would like to have in their community and on their city block. Let them know that at the end of the project they will combine all of their blocks to create their class' city. Have them add their individual design paper to the one large 18 x 24 piece of paper (this will be their "plans"). Encourage them to each draw and write on the "plans," to ensure they remember what they wanted to do the next time they have art class.

Evaluate: Evaluate throughout the lesson. Present students with a scoring guide at the beginning. Scoring tools developed by teachers target what students must know and do. Consistent use of scoring tools improves learning.

I plan to have a specific set reflection assessment that students use for each project. It keeps my assessments consistent, and the students know what to expect. I have attached it with the "Cube" project instructions.

3D Cubes

(idea found on Pinterest, modified for lesson and instructions written by Jessie Bayless)

Materials: (for one cube)

12 strips of construction paper (3 in x 6 in) –depending on how “tall” you want their buildings to end up

Glue (**not** glue sticks)

Optional: popsicle sticks or pencils

Instructions:

1. Fold each strip of construction paper in half.
2. Lay out and connect 4 folded strips to create a “square.” This will be the bottom of the cube.
3. Glue each over-lapping corner (glue sticks do not work well).
4. Apply glue to the inside/top corners of the “square” (not the bottom/touching the table).
5. Take a strip and attach it corner-to-corner to each corner. In the end, it should look like an upside down table (legs in the air).
6. Let these pieces set aside and dry and construct another “square” with the remaining strips of paper (refer back to step 2-3).
7. Take the second square and lay it on top of the “legs” of the other piece (like a cap or hat).
8. Carefully apply glue where the two pieces are joined and press and hold a few seconds to ensure the pieces are securely together. (here, one may want to use a popsicle stick or the end of a pencil to help get into the inside of the cube).
9. Let the “cube” fully dry before handling too much.

