

Contrast Unit

Grade Level: 5th Grade

Overview Statement:

The curriculum goal of the unit is contrast, and how several art elements can be used to create contrast in art. The three elements chosen for this unit are texture, value and shape. This unit would work well with a life science unit in the main classroom because the contrast unit will be directly related to the living environment of the beach including images of the beach, shoreline, seashells, as well as using actual seashells and sand in projects.

The New York State Standards that will be used in the contrast unit are as follows:

1. Students will create a landscape composition, a still life composition and a three dimensional object all directly related to a beach environment.
2. Students will learn to use and manipulate a variety of traditional art mediums, as well as untraditional art mediums.
3. Students will be able to assess their own work, as well as learn and review the contrast vocabulary terms by completing a relevant handout at the end of each lesson.
4. Students will gain knowledge to several types of ways to achieve contrast in their art, as well as recognizing contrast in nature.

Student Needs:

At this point of the student's life, they are in what Lowenfeld describes and the "Dawning Realism" stage (ages 9-11). Students realize that their images lack an ability to show how objects actually appear in it's environment and they begin to want to draw more realistically than how they have in the past such as :

- ~Adding more detail to their art to express realism
- ~Creating a horizon line rather than a base line
- ~Overlapping objects to create perspective
- ~Shading is used to achieve three dimensionality

Acknowledging this, I created this contrast unit plan to help guide the student's through their artistic development and prepare them for future artistic developmental stages.