



Architecture of Ancient Civilizations Submitted by Leslie Burnham For Grades 7 and 8

Purpose:

This lesson will introduce students to the different styles and innovations of building in ancient cultures. Students will learn to draw in one and two point perspective.

Essential Questions:

Where and when did ancient civilizations occur? What is unique about each civilization in their culture and architecture? What type of building structures did each civilization create? Did they develop and use any innovations in building?

Objectives:

- Learn about seven different civilizations.
- Be able to identify significant features of each civilization.
- Learn about significant contributions of each civilization to the history of mankind.
- Learn about building styles and architectural features of each civilization.
- Learn how to use one point perspective to draw simple shapes in a radial design.
- Learn to identify and draw three dimensional geometric shapes.
- Learn how to use one point perspective on a horizon line to create a street scene.
- Practice drawing shapes in two point perspective.
- Choose an ancient civilization architectural style to draw a two point perspective building.

Target Grade Level:

This will be taught to grade levels 7 and 8, but it could be covered more in depth and use more drawing lesson time in high school grade levels.

Standards:

- Perceives shapes; identifies other geometric shapes, identifies irregular shapes.
- Perceives value; compares light and dark values and creates gradation from light to dark.
- Perceives space; distinguishes between two and three dimensional space, can suggest depth on a flat surface, and identifies cone, cube cylinder, pyramid and sphere.
- Drawing; draws in one and two point perspective.
- Design and Composition; makes a radial design, uses repetition in line and shape in design, identifies structure and decoration and identifies focal point.
- Art Awareness; look at art in the classroom, names and describes subject, objects and elements in compositions.

- Art History; becomes aware of how social groups express their value and beliefs through visual art forms, becomes aware of cultural origins of art, recognizes signs and symbols that represent an idea, and becomes aware of major art periods.
- Artistic Heritage; develops an awareness of two dimensional work through prints, drawings, photos, identifies architecture of various periods, and recognizes style as a product of time periods.

Materials Needed:

- Power point presentation about each of the following civilizations; Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, China, Rome, Korea and Japan including samples of architecture from each culture. One presentation will be given each week for each separate civilization.
- Worksheets to help direct notes from each presentation.
- Drawing paper
- Drawing pencils
- Rulers
- Erasers
- Color pencils

Required time for project:

This series of lessons will require an entire quarter of art classes, either nine or ten weeks. Presentations will take approximately 10 minutes and then will have 40 minutes to work on art skills.

Class 1: Presentation on Mesopotamia, its contributions and architectural feat of ziggurats as well as presentation on Egypt and pyramids. Teach how to draw pyramids and simple three dimensional geometric shapes with one point perspective in a radial design. Learn about three dimensional shapes.

Class 2: Presentation on ancient Greece, its form of government and building styles. Learn how to draw simple building shapes on a street in one point perspective with a horizon.

Class 3: Presentation on ancient China, its innovations in technology and architectural style. Continue to draw a scene with buildings with one point perspective.

Class 4: Presentation on Ancient Japan. Teach how to draw shapes in two point perspective.

Class 5: Presentation on Ancient Korea, focusing on the Silla period and Buddhist influence with the development of Hwangnyongsa as centers of worship. Teach how to draw a simple building in two point perspective.

Class 6: Presentation on Ancient Rome, its contributions to western civilizations and newly found developments in building. Continue to work on drawing buildings with two point perspective.

Class 7: Review art periods with a summary slideshow depicting architecture forms from the seven different historical periods. Turn in summary sheets about different historical periods. Choose favorite architecture period in history and begin to draw a like building using two point perspective. Samples of architecture from each era will be available on drawing tables.

Class 8: Hand back summary sheets and review historical periods for test. Continue drawing chosen building in two point perspective.

Class 9 and 10: Take test on historical periods and finish drawing building from chosen historical period as final project.

Assessment:

- Graded project on one point perspective using and identifying three dimensional geometric shapes in a radial design adding gradated value with color pencils.
- Graded project utilizing simple buildings in one point perspective adding repetition in line and design in structure and decoration.
- Graded project creating shapes using two point perspective adding value with drawing pencils.
- Summary sheets from presentations including a two paragraph comparison of important developments and architectural styles from two different history periods.
- Test covering the seven different historical periods.
- Final project of a two point perspective drawing of a building from student's preferred ancient civilization.

Teacher Resources:

Ancient Rome and building site; <http://www.roman-empire.net/children/builders.html>

Map of Roman Empire; <http://intranet.dalton.org/groups/Rome/RMap.html>

Ancient Chinese architecture; http://www.chinaculture.org/gb/en_madeinchina/node_2944.htm

Chinese architecture styles; <http://www.travelchinaguide.com/intro/architecture/styles/>

Chinese architecture; <http://library.thinkquest.org/10098/china1.htm>

Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece and Rome; The Annotated Mona Lisa, Carol Strickland, PhD. A John Boswell Management, Inc. 1992

Korean Hwangnyongsa temples; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hwangnyongsa>

Korean architecture; <http://nongae.gsnu.ac.kr/~mirkoh/korb01.html>

Korean architecture; <http://www.asianinfo.org/asianinfo/korea/pro-architecture.htm>

Japanese architecture; http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Japanese_architecture

Japanese architecture in Kansai; http://www.kippo.or.jp/culture_e/build.htm

Japanese architecture; <http://www.asianinfo.org/asianinfo/japan/architecture.htm>

Japanese Architecture, William Alex, G. Braziller, New York, 1963

Architectural samples from each ancient civilization are included on the enclosed disk.