

~ Contemporary Korean Collage ~ ~ Park-in-Sook ~



Purpose:

This lesson will begin with a brief introduction to Korea so the students have some background of the country and the people. This big idea for this lesson is to introduce my students to a contemporary Korean artist who creates collages with fabric. The designs on the fabric resemble designs that come from traditional Korean pottery decorations. I want the students to make a connection from ancient Korean art to contemporary Korean art through this lesson.

*My students are currently doing a semester long unit on East Asian art.

Essential Questions:

1. What is similar and different about Sook's collages and Korean pottery designs?
2. Why would an artist want to create art using traditional designs on contemporary art?

Target Grade Level:

This lesson is designed for a 4th grade audience. This lesson could be adapted for middle school by having the students research Korean pottery decorations and then creating their own stencil for the fabric for their collages. For high school the students could create screen-printed fabric based on traditional Korean pottery decorations for their collages.

Rationale:

When most students study the art of another country and/or culture it is usually based on historical artworks and this is all well and good, but I wanted my students to see that contemporary artists are alive and well and living and creating artwork in Korea. The focus of this lesson is based on the artwork of Park-in-Sook.

Resources ~ Teacher Preparation:

- Video – Korea
- Background information traditional Korean pottery decorations.
- Background information on Park-in-Sook.
- Power point presentation and/or paper presentation of the artwork of Park-in-Sook and traditional Korean pottery decorations.

Materials:

- Paper
- Pencils and erasers

- Acrylic paint
- Stencils of traditional Korean pottery decorations
- Fabric to stencil upon
- Fabric – single colors for collage
- Scissors
- Glue
- Cardboard



King and Queen

Activities:

Day One: Introduction

Introduce lesson:

The lesson will begin with an introduction to Korea with a video tour. We will briefly cover where Korea is, what the people look like, what they wear, what the country looks like. From here we will view the art of Park-in-Sook and try to figure out where she came up with the ideas for the designs on the fabric she used in her collages, by showing the students a brief historical overview of Korean art from ancient times to today. I will focus the presentation on Korean pottery so the students can notice how the pottery decorations resemble the designs on Park-in-Sook's artwork.

Day Two:

Demonstration and Studio: (teacher will demonstrate process)

In the second class the students will begin to create designs on fabric using pre-made stencils and fabric paint. Each student will use a different stencil on pieces of fabric and do as many as they can so the students can have a lot of choices when creating their collages. We will discuss color choices through color schemes.

Day Three: Collage Day

Demonstration and Studio: (teacher will demonstrate process)

This class will begin with a teacher demonstration of putting a collage together. This is not such an easy process for any aged student. I will begin by choosing a color scheme of the stenciled fabric along with some plain colored fabric. I will layout the design on my piece of cardboard and ask for student input. We will first focus on the art elements of color, shape, and pattern and then focus on the art principals of repetition, focal point, and balance. Then I will demonstrate how to properly glue the fabric to the cardboard.

Now it is time for the students to begin their collages. They will begin by choosing a color scheme of stenciled fabric and plain fabric that goes with the color scheme. They will be given an envelope to store their fabric in. Next they will get their cardboard and lay out their collage. They will be instructed to ask

their table partners and the teacher for ideas along the way. When they get the collage just the way they like it they will begin to glue down the collage. (Problem – if they do not get the whole thing glued down then just leave the pieces in place and gently place it on the drying rack.)

Day Four: Collage Day

Demonstration and Studio:

This day the students will complete their collages.

Day Five:

Final Critique:

The students will display their collages and we will view and discuss them as a class. We will have an open discussion of the artwork using the elements and principals of design and then the students will write about the process they went through to create their artwork and discuss their artworks successes and where they think they could have improved.

Requirements:

- The student's will create designs on fabric with pre-made stencils and acrylic paint, concentrating on a color scheme.
- The students will create a collage base on the work of Park-in-Sook.
- The students will use the elements of color, shape and pattern in their collage.
- The student will use the principals of repetition, focal point, and balance in their collage.
- The students will properly use glue to attach the cloth to the cardboard.

Standards:

- Identify and describe artwork from various cultural/ethnic groups (e.g., Paleo Indians, European immigrants, Appalachian, Amish, African or Asian groups) that settle in Ohio over time.
- Discuss artwork in terms of line, shape, color, texture and composition.
- Give and receive constructive feedback to produce artworks that meet learning goals.

~Teacher Resources~

Traditional Korean Pottery Decorations:

Refer to power point presentation

Park-in-Sook:

Park-in-Sook was born in Chun-an, Choong-nam, Korea. She graduated from the Sang-myung Graduate School where she majored in Fiber Design. She had her first exhibition in 1997 in the Chun-an Cultural Center. Sook won first prize in 1985 and again in 1997 in the Choong-nam Art Contest. She is a member of the Korean Art Association and is a professor at Joong-bu University in the Industry Design Department. (Korean Contemporary Art Database)

Quotes from the artist:

" In order to give a breath in works through natural harmonious art emotion of Baekje" (Baekje is defined as Korean white porcelain that is decorated with organic patterns.)

"Our ancestor loved nature and the love was not limited. They held the untouchable sun, moon, star, cloud, lightning, thunder and animals, plants, mineral matters even trial matters in mind. In other words they symbolized everything in the world because they believed that everything had a life and each portion. They wanted to receive consolation from lucky things, and believed that its mysterious infinite energy could achieve their hopes. Patterns are from this symbolic thought. Baek-je people expressed their pure mind, love for nature and cosmos through the patterns. I intended to approach to new dying design using this traditional sense of beauty and our modern sense."
(Korean Contemporary Art Database)

Annotative Bibliography Korean Pottery Decorations and Collage

Korea (video recording). Houston: Travel International, c1995

This video is excellent for the classroom, elementary through high school, because it is 23 minutes in length. It shows the beauty of the South Korean landscape and its people. I was amazed by the mountainous landscapes, the lovely beaches and was shocked by the busy and contemporary life in the big city.

Korean-Arts. Korean-arts.com (2004) http://www.korean-arts.com/jars/white_brown_porcelain/blue_floral_baek-ja_jar.htm

This site has great examples of all sorts of Korean pottery from old to new. Korean-Arts is an online art gallery that sells the artists work. There is a photograph and a bit of information of all of the pieces that are for sale. This site is best suited for researching Korean pottery forms.

Korean Contemporary Art Database. ARTIN.COM (2004)
<http://artin.com/en/Design>

This web site is exactly what it says, a database for contemporary art. The art is very new age and on the edge. The artists are listed along with a sample of their work, and then you can click on the image and get more of their work with the artist's biography. This site would be best used when looking for ideas for contemporary art.

McKillop, Beth. *Korean Art and Design*. HarperCollins Publishers, Inc., 1992.

This is the best book I have seen on Korean art. The illustrations are full page and in color. The book begins with a historical introduction, maps, and notes on the people and the language. The chapters in the book are broken down by different art forms. Each art form is well represented and there is even a section on contemporary art. This book is in depth yet it would be appropriate for middle to high school students and teachers.

Portal, Jane. *Korea Art and Archaeology*. The Trustees of the British Museum, 2000.

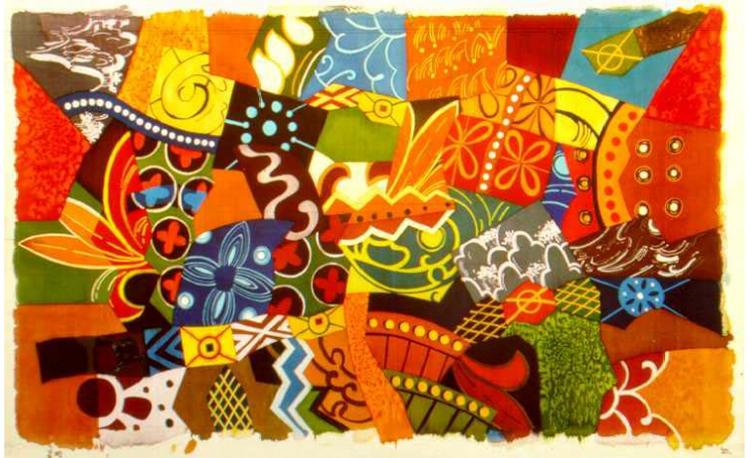
This is a book begins with an overview of Korea and its people. The chapters are separated by Korean time periods and then into different art forms. I found the images and information in this book to be excellent but the way it is arranged by period was confusing if you were researching a

specific art form because you had to go from chapter to chapter. This would be a good source for specific Korean time periods.

The Korean Pottery. Koreanpottery.com (2004)

<http://www.koreafolkart.com/efrm1.htm>

This site is packed full of information on a wide variety of Korean pottery. The pottery is categorized for easy access. The images are clear and copy well for a power point presentation. The written information is thorough and easy to understand. It begins with an overview of Korean pottery from its beginning to today. This site is good for teachers to research Korean pottery.



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