

Upper Valley Linkages for Environmental Literacy (UVLEL) Unit Roadmap

PAPER FOOTPRINT

Stephanie Loeffler, Tunbridge Central School 2011 Grade 3-4-5 combined classroom

This unit was presented in art class which met 2X a week for 45 min. The activities started in October and were interspersed throughout the year encompassing about 16 classes.

Essential questions:

How do we value our environment?

Why does an artist paint images of the environment?

What do we use and where does it come from?

How can we recycle paper?

How is paper made from raw materials?

How much paper do we use at our school?

How many trees would it take to make the paper that we use?

Key GEs

A5-6:10, A3-4:10 Students show skill development when creating art by using various art tools and materials for specific purposes

A5-6:12, A3-4-4:12 Students show understanding of visual arts concepts and vocabulary by explaining and using different media, genre, and technique.

A3-4:16, A5-6:16, A5-6:16 Students make connections between/among the arts and disciplines outside the arts by communicating ideas, concepts, feelings from other disciplines.

S5-6:49 Students demonstrate their understanding of Processes and Change within Natural resources by identifying examples of good and poor management of natural resources and responsible management of the earth's resources (air, soil, water, trees) is beneficial for the environment and for human use

Assessments of learning

All students will participate in making recycled paper. Their finished product will show to what degree they understand the process and all its variables.

Students will learn to make paper from raw materials. They will by trial and error learn how much more difficult it is to produce paper from raw materials.

A student produced visual presentation will illustrate student understanding of the resources required to produce paper. In writing they will show their knowledge of the environmental impact of paper use. They will show their understanding of the benefits of recycling vs paper from raw materials.

Student drawing will reflect their understanding of the unique nature of trees.

Student photographs show their understanding that our school property is beautiful and worth conserving.

Through discussion and writing students demonstrate their understanding of the environmental impact of their paper use.

Activities to support learning targets

Students examine and draw tree leaves.

Students create tree paintings in the Fauvist style (imparting emotion with the use of intense color)

Students look at landscape paintings and consider aspects of the environment that are illustrated by the artist. Paintings included work by Van Gogh, Monet, Grant Wood, Wolfe Kahn, Albert Bierstadt and Emily Carr.

We asked ourselves why do artist paint the environment?

Students go for a walk outside our school to take photographs of what they think is beautiful.

We view a slide show of their photographs and discuss the importance of our natural surroundings.

Together we made a list of all the things that we have and use in our lives. We consider where all this stuff comes from. THE EARTH!

Paper appeared on this list and we set about discussing what we know about paper. Where it comes from. How we use it How is it made? How does paper use impact our environment?

Students learn how to make recycled paper.

We investigate how to make paper from raw materials. We used corn husks. We compared the use of resources between recycled and raw.

Students collect data on paper use in our school. They talk to the secretary, janitor, cafeteria personnel and art teacher.

The class goes outside and we take an inventory of all the trees nearby the school.

Using a formula of 24 trees to 1 ton of paper students learn how many trees in our immediate environment would need to be made into paper to supply our yearly school needs.

Supporting resources (websites, book titles, videos, human resources, etc.)

The Art and Craft of Paper-making by Sophie Dawson 1092 Lark Books

Papermaking for Basketry and Other Crafts edited by Lynn Sterns 1992 Lark Books

Paper, Making, Decorating, Designing By Beata Thackeray 1998 Watson-Guption

www.idahoforests.org

www.conservaTree.org