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UVLEL Tunbridge Clay, Past and Present
Unit Road Map
June 2012

This is a unit designed for my 6th grade art class that meets 2X a week. The unit took place over 9 class periods.

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- * Is there clay in Tunbridge?
- * How is clay different from other types of earth that can be gathered or how will we know we have found clay?
- * What can we do with clay that we might find?
- * Has the clay in Tunbridge been used before
- * How was the clay formed and how did it get in the stream bed?

KEY GE'S/GSE'S

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

S5-6:7 Students demonstrate their to EXPLAIN DATA by using experimental results to support or refute original hypothesis and using additional resources(interviews to strengthen an explanation

S5-6:9 Students demonstrate their understanding of the properties of matter and recognizing that all living and non living things are formed from combinations of about 100 elements.

S5-6:14 Students demonstrate their understanding of Physical change by predicting the effect of heating and cooling on the physical state and mass of a substance

ASSESSMENTS OF LEARNING

- * Students will create and keep a journal which will encompass pre test, field trips, site observations and predictions, speakers and reflections
- * Students will create artwork using the clay we find in Tunbridge.

ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Students create a journal which contains a pre and post test and space to record their notes and drawings regarding this unit.
2. Students examine a topographic map of Tunbridge and locate place where we will investigate the presents of clay
3. A geologist accompanies the class on a field trip to a local area known to have clay.
4. The geologist teaches a lesson about ancient Lake Hitchcock whose waters deposited clay in our valley.

5. The substance is examined in the classroom and determined to be clay. Students make art pieces with the clay.
6. A local historian visits the class and talks about the history of clay use in our town. They learn that the clay was used for making bricks and building numerous homes in Tunbridge.
7. Students go on a field trip and find some of these buildings still exist in town and take photos of them.
8. Clay items are fired in a kiln and discovered to vitrify at 1445 degrees.
9. Students make miniature bricks that we find fire to a nice brick red even though the clay is black.
10. Students view a slide show about their work in this unit.
11. Student take the post test on this unit and their journals are evaluated.