



Brightwater Site

Brightwater Grade 8 Art Programming

Visual Art

Instructor: Kevin Quinlan

This list of lessons is not set in a specific order. Ideas can be used on their own or in groups.

- Teachers can select the exercises that fit with their particular program or new ideas can be tailor made to connect with things the students are doing in their homeroom class.
- Each drawing exercise will include introduction to materials and techniques.
- Students will learn the methods of classical drawing as well as the importance of good observation.
- Each painting exercise will introduce the student to painting techniques, composition, colour theory and the creation of an interesting image that will engage the viewer.
- Each sculpture exercise will include three dimensional observation and structural techniques.

Grade 8 students will create visual art works that respond directly to the natural environment. They will examine the way artists use symbols and imagery to communicate meaning.

1) 'Reflected Images' painting on location at the creek

A visual study connecting the creek bank and the growth on it to the water of the creek and the shapes it creates. Students will use a combination of wet and dry watercolour technique. Each student will complete 2 watercolour studies with the emphasis on the combinations of colours, textures and shapes in the natural environment.

Medium: watercolour on watercolour paper, grade 8 students work larger paper

2) 'Drawing the Tree' students will draw 10 different trees on location

Gesture, movement, texture, tone and selective line will be used to respond to the individual growth pattern of each tree. The artist learns through observation. Each tree has a story to tell.

Medium: pencil on paper or sketch book

3) **‘Preparing a Plant Storyboard’** students will draw five different plants on location at Brightwater.

In the classroom the drawings are arranged together on a larger paper or board including a description of each plant and its place in the prairie ecosystem. Storyboard techniques are used in many areas of art.

Medium: pencil and watercolour on paper mounted on large paper or board

4) **‘Story in the Animal’** symbolist painting

Students will draw the outline of any animal that might be found on or around the Brightwater Centre. Inside the lines of the animal students will draw other animals, plants or natural formations. Each image used inside the animal connects with the original animal and all the images together tell a story. The colours used to paint the image also have meaning.

Medium: conte crayon and watercolour on paper

5) **‘Genre Self Portrait’** students will create a self-portrait showing their own personal connection to the land.

Working with a combination of drawing and painting materials students will create a self-portrait and add elements to the image using a symbolist format. The elements will show several different ways the individual is connected to their natural environment. It can be as simple as enjoying the outdoors or showing how the spirit of the land affects us.

Medium: watercolour or oil pastel

6) **‘Masking Tape Sculptures’** Using a wood armature and masking tape students can create light weight, strong sculptures. Students will learn to put action into the pose to change the dynamic of the artwork. The wood and tape will allow tall thin forms that are difficult to manage in traditional clay sculptures. The sculptures are painted using acrylic paint and additional textures can be added as well.

Medium: masking tape, wooden sticks, gesso and acrylic paint

7) **‘Human Beings in Clay’** Students will create sculptures of people who live on the land.

Beginning with removable armature students will create a sculpture of a person or persons who live on the land. Exploring the clothing and equipment used by early cultures in Saskatchewan students will create an action figure that is shown actually using early traditional tools. After the figures are fired and painted they could be grouped together to create dioramas showing the traditional way of life.

Medium: medium fire clay, glazes or watercolour and spray varnish