

LESSON PLAN



Teacher	Grade Level: 3-5 Time Allotted for Lesson: 60 min.
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Subject(s)	English Language Arts & Social Studies
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Compelling Question	How do artists use their art to tell stories and share their culture?
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Supporting Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who are some notable Black visual artists from Kentucky?• What themes or messages are present in their artwork?• How can art reflect personal experiences and cultural identity?
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Central Focus of the Lesson	Students will explore the works of Kentucky’s Black visual artists, learning how art can express identity, culture, and history, and create their own art inspired by these artists.
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Context for Learning	This lesson is designed to introduce students to diverse perspectives in art and to encourage them to reflect on how art communicates powerful stories and emotions.
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Kentucky Academic Standard(s)

3.G.KGE.1, 3.H.KH.1, RI.3.3, RI.4.3, RI.5.3, C.3.6, C.4.6, C.5.6

Success Criteria/Learning Outcomes

- I can analyze an artist's work.
- I can discern important information about an artist from a biography.
- I can create a work of art that reflects themes from my own life.

Primary/Secondary Sources

- Images of artists' work
- Artist biographies

Formative Performance Task

Students will create a one-page biography about an artist of their choice. They will also create a work of art that reflects important moments or themes in their own life, like the different artists that were studied.

Vocabulary

Sculpture, Woodcarving, Abstract, Theme, Identity, Expression, Medium (art materials)

Accommodations

Assign art examples digitally to students to view up close, one at a time. Offer sentence frames or prompts to support writing and discussion. Allow alternative ways to create art for students.

Differentiation

Learners can research additional artists and art techniques. Collaborative art projects can be allowed for students who thrive in group settings. The teacher may choose to limit the number of artists discussed to make the task less overwhelming.

Technology and Materials

Tablets or computers for digital viewing; art supplies (paper, pencils, markers, paint, and clay)

Relevant Background Information for Teachers

Teachers should learn about the historical and cultural contexts influencing Kentucky's Black visual artists, including the social and personal experiences that shape their work. Understanding different artistic techniques will help in guiding discussions.

Lesson Activities

Introduction (10 minutes):

Introduce [Vocab](#)

Use the [slides](#) to present the compelling question and show examples of artwork by Black Kentucky artists and ask students to share their initial impressions.

The teacher may wish to have students create an [“I Notice/I Wonder”](#) chart, either individually or with small groups/whole group.

Exploration (20 minutes):

Display the [artist biographies](#) and their [works of art](#). This can be done in stations around the room, by providing them digitally to students, or by using a Jigsaw strategy to have students analyze the resources.

Application (15 minutes):

Students will create a [Biography One Pager](#) about one of the artists.

Discussion (10 minutes):

Students present in a whole group or small group setting or display in the hallway to create biographical art gallery.

Taking Informed Action/Extension Activity

Students will curate a classroom “art gallery” featuring their own works alongside prints or images of the artist studied.

Organize a community art night where students present what they’ve learned about Kentucky’s Black visual artists and display their creations.

Encourage students to write letters or emails to local artists to learn more about their creative process and inspirations.