



Lesson Plan: Discover How Artists Engage Our Senses

Subject: Visual Arts

Objective:

Students will explore how different artists use the five senses in their artwork and inspire kids to create their own sensory art.

Materials:

- General Supplies: Crayons, colored pencils, markers, paper, aprons, plastic table covers, clay, textured materials, scent samples, audio clips, taste samples (if applicable)
- Digital Presentation Tools: Computer, projector, screen
- Handouts: Artist bios, sensory art idea templates, reflection journals, self-assessment forms
- Online Resources: Links to artist videos, virtual museum tours

Lesson Duration: Five 45-minute class sessions.

Detailed Weekly Plan:

Day 1: Introduction to Sensory Art and Sight

- Objective: Introduce students to the concept of sensory art and how artists use sight to create immersive experiences.

Materials for Day 1:

- High-resolution images and videos of James Turrell's light installations
- Crayons, colored pencils, markers, paper, aprons, plastic table covers
- Handouts with artist bios and sensory art descriptions



Instructions and Script for Day 1:

Introduction (10 minutes):

- Teacher Script:

"Good morning, everyone! Did you know that artists can use light, sound, and even smells in their art? They do this to change how we see, hear, and feel things, making art fun to explore with all our senses! Today, we're going to discover how artists engage our senses in their artwork. Let's start with sight."

Artist Showcase: Sight (10 minutes):

- Artist: James Turrell

- Presentation: Show images and video clips of James Turrell's light installations.

- Discussion:

- "How does James Turrell use light in his art?"

- "How do these light installations make you feel?"

Hands-On Activity: Light and Shadow Drawings (20 minutes):

- Instructions: "Now, let's create our own light and shadow drawings. Use your crayons and markers to draw pictures that play with light and shadows, just like James Turrell."

- Materials: Provide paper, crayons, and markers.

- Guidance: Walk around and help students with their drawings, encouraging them to think about how light and shadows interact in their artwork.

Wrap-Up (5 minutes):

- Teacher Script: "Great job today! We learned how artists use light to engage our sense of sight. Tomorrow, we'll explore how they use sound."

Day 2: Exploring Sound in Art

- Objective: Introduce students to how artists use sound to create immersive experiences.

Materials for Day 2:

- Audio clips from Janet Cardiff's audio walks
- Crayons, colored pencils, markers, paper, aprons, plastic table covers
- Handouts with artist bios and sensory art descriptions

Instructions and Script for Day 2:

Introduction (5 minutes):

- Teacher Script:

"Good morning! Yesterday, we learned about how artists use light to engage our sense of sight. Today, we'll explore how they use sound. Let's listen to some audio art."

Artist Showcase: Sound (10 minutes):

- Artist: Janet Cardiff

- Presentation: Play excerpts from Janet Cardiff's audio walks.

- Discussion:

- "What sounds did you hear in Janet Cardiff's audio walks?"

- "How do these sounds change the way you experience the environment?"

Hands-On Activity: Sound Collages (25 minutes):

- Instructions: "Now, let's create our own sound collages. Draw a picture of a place and then think about the sounds you might hear there. Write or draw those sounds around your picture."

- Materials: Provide paper, crayons, colored pencils, and markers.

- Guidance: Assist students in drawing their pictures and thinking about the sounds they would hear in their chosen environment.

Wrap-Up (5 minutes):

- Teacher Script: "Great job today! We learned how artists use sound to engage our sense of hearing. Tomorrow, we'll explore how they use touch."

Day 3: Exploring Touch in Art

- Objective: Introduce students to how artists use touch to create immersive experiences.

Materials for Day 3:

- Images and videos of Anish Kapoor's sculptures
- Crayons, colored pencils, markers, clay, textured materials, paper, aprons, plastic table covers
- Handouts with artist bios and sensory art descriptions

Instructions and Script for Day 3:

Introduction (5 minutes):

- Teacher Script:

"Good morning! Yesterday, we learned about how artists use sound to engage our sense of hearing. Today, we'll explore how they use touch. Let's look at some tactile art."

Artist Showcase: Touch (10 minutes):

- Artist: Anish Kapoor
- Presentation: Show images and video clips of Anish Kapoor's sculptures.
- Discussion:
 - "How do you think Anish Kapoor's sculptures feel to touch?"
 - "What textures and shapes do you see in his sculptures?"

Hands-On Activity: Clay Sculptures (25 minutes):

- Instructions: "Now, let's create our own tactile sculptures using clay. Think about the different textures and shapes you can make."
- Materials: Provide clay and textured materials.
- Guidance: Assist students in molding their clay and experimenting with different textures and shapes.



Wrap-Up (5 minutes):

- Teacher Script: "Great job today! We learned how artists use touch to engage our sense of touch. Tomorrow, we'll explore how they use smell."

Day 4: Exploring Smell in Art

- Objective: Introduce students to how artists use smell to create immersive experiences.

Materials for Day 4:

- Scent samples inspired by Sissel Tolaas's work
- Crayons, colored pencils, markers, paper, aprons, plastic table covers
- Handouts with artist bios and sensory art descriptions

Instructions and Script for Day 4:

Introduction (5 minutes):

- Teacher Script:

"Good morning! Yesterday, we learned about how artists use touch to engage our sense of touch. Today, we'll explore how they use smell. Let's experience some scent art."

Artist Showcase: Smell (10 minutes):

- Artist: Sissel Tolaas
- Presentation: Discuss Sissel Tolaas's use of scents in her artwork and provide scent samples for students to experience.
- Discussion:
 - "What do these scents remind you of?"
 - "How do these smells make you feel?"

Hands-On Activity: Scent Drawings (25 minutes):

- Instructions: "Now, let's create our own scent-inspired drawings. Draw a picture of a place or memory that comes to mind when you smell these scents."

- Materials: Provide paper, crayons, colored pencils, and markers.
- Guidance: Assist students in drawing their pictures and thinking about the scents that inspired them.

Wrap-Up (5 minutes):

- Teacher Script: "Great job today! We learned how artists use smell to engage our sense of smell. Tomorrow, we'll explore how they use taste."

Day 5: Exploring Taste in Art

- Objective: Introduce students to how artists use taste to create immersive experiences.

Materials for Day 5:

- Taste samples inspired by Ferran Adrià's work (if applicable and safe)
- Crayons, colored pencils, markers, paper, aprons, plastic table covers
- Handouts with artist bios and sensory art descriptions

Instructions and Script for Day 5:

Introduction (5 minutes):

- Teacher Script:

"Good morning! Yesterday, we learned about how artists use smell to engage our sense of smell. Today, we'll explore how they use taste. Let's see how taste can be a part of art."

Artist Showcase: Taste (10 minutes):

- Artist: Ferran Adrià
- Presentation: Discuss Ferran Adrià's use of taste in his culinary art and, if possible, provide safe taste samples for students to experience.
- Discussion:
 - "How do these tastes make you feel?"
 - "What memories or images come to mind when you taste these samples?"

Hands-On Activity: Taste-Inspired Drawings (25 minutes):

- Instructions: "Now, let's create our own taste-inspired drawings. Draw a picture of a place or memory that comes to mind when you taste these samples."
- Materials: Provide paper, crayons, colored pencils, and markers.
- Guidance: Assist students in drawing their pictures and thinking about the tastes that inspired them.

Wrap-Up (5 minutes):

- Teacher Script: "Great job today! We learned how artists use taste to engage our sense of taste. Next week, we'll combine all the senses we've explored and create a big sensory art project!"

Extensions and Assessments

Extensions:

- Early Finishers: Students who finish early can write a short essay in their reflection journals about their project, focusing on what was successful and what challenges they encountered.
- Additional Research:

Students can research another artist known for using sensory elements and prepare a short presentation for the class.

- Recommended Museums:
 - The Metropolitan Museum of Art
 - The Museum of Modern Art (MoMA)
 - The Guggenheim Museum
 - The Tate Modern

The National Gallery of Art



- Virtual Tours: Use online resources to take virtual tours of museums featuring sensory art. Links can be provided to museum websites with virtual tour options.

Assessments:

- Formative Assessment: Monitor students' progress during hands-on activities and provide ongoing feedback.
- Summative Assessment: Use a rubric to evaluate each student's sensory artwork based on creativity, adherence to the sensory concept, effort, and understanding of how senses are engaged.
- Self-Assessment: Have students complete a self-assessment form reflecting on their project and learning experience.
- Peer Assessment: Encourage peer feedback during the final critique session to promote collaborative learning.

Teacher Notes:

- Provide clear criteria for assessments and explain them to students at the beginning of the project.
- Use the rubric consistently to ensure fair and objective grading.
- Model positive and constructive feedback during critiques and encourage students to practice these skills.