

Sculpture: Holiday Snowmen

Various ceramic building techniques will be utilized to create a clay sculpture of a holiday snowman figure.



Target Grade: 5

Goal (Terminal Objective): Students will define sculpture as a three dimensional work of art. Students will use appropriate vocabulary when discussing sculpture. Students will use ceramic building techniques to create a free standing sculpture of a snowman.

Objective: Students will become aware of colors, textures, patterns, and other qualities of sculptural works of art. Students will become aware of the various materials used for sculpture. Students will identify additive and sculptural techniques. Students will apply proper clay building techniques to sculpt a snowman using Sargent *Classic Air* Hardening clay.

National Standards:

Visual Arts Grades 5-8 Content Standard 1: Understanding and applying media, techniques, and processes

Visual Arts Grades 5-8 Content Standard 3: Choosing and evaluating a range of subject matter, symbols, and ideas

Visual Arts Grades 5-8 Content Standard 5: Reflecting upon and assessing the characteristics and merits of their work and the work of others (**Language Arts Cross Curriculum Connection**)

Purpose: Students will become aware of variations of media, techniques, and processes used to investigate sculptural styles. Students will investigate the geometric forms used in sculpture and apply appropriate building techniques in the modeling of a snowman sculpture. Students will compare subtractive and additive sculptural techniques.

New Vocabulary: carving, modeling, ceramic, applied, sculpture, base, free-standing

Materials:



#22-3000 Bright White Air-Hardening Clay



#66-5625 Washable Fluorescent Set



#66-5420 Acrylic Set



#22-8811 Acrylic glitter glaze



#23-9111 11 ct. Sculpting Tool Set

Matt board, cardboard

Time: This lesson may be modified from one to five hours, depending upon the size and complexity of expectations.

Introduction and Motivation (Set):

View a variety of examples of sculpture. View photos of snowmen, use literary visuals and narratives. Discuss the varieties of clay explaining development process between air-dry clay and glazed ceramic fired clay. Explain the air-dry process. View model and discuss building process as well as the limitations of the material. Discuss giving character to the snowman and the various accessories or details the snowman might hold or wear to symbolize a holiday.

Instruction:

Teacher will demonstrate the rendering of shapes and textures in the compositional sketch of a snowman. Teacher will demonstrate translating sketch into a clay sculpture. Teacher will identify additive and subtractive processes during the clay building demonstration.

Teacher will demonstrate the slab technique for the base of the sculpture. Teacher will

demonstrate the coil building technique to construct the two balls of the snowman. Teacher will demonstrate attaching the two balls. Teacher will demonstrate the pinch pot technique to create the snowman head. Teacher will demonstrate adding details to enhance the design of the snowman.

Teacher will demonstrate painting the dried clay sculpture.

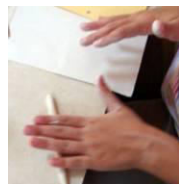
Activities:

(1) Guided Practice:

1. Students generate several sketches of snowmen.
2. Students will select one sketch to be constructed in a sculpture of a snowman.
3. Students will roll a slab of clay for the base of the sculpture. Place slab on a wood or piece of cardboard for support.
4. Students will use the coil method of clay building to form the base ball of



the snowman sculpture and firmly attach to the slab base.



5. After adding several coils, student will give more spherical shape to the bottom ball of snowman.



6. Students use clay coil building technique to form second ball of snowman and place on bottom ball of snowman, attaching firmly.



7. Students continue to add details to enhance the character of the snowman.



8. Students will paint their snowman and cover with Sargent Glitter Glaze.



Students will compose a narrative about their snowman.

(2) Independent Practice and Check for Understanding: Teacher circulates among working students visually recording students demonstrating understanding of objectives and provides reinforcement.

(3) Closure: For the language arts connection, publish a book of stories about the snowmen constructed in the class.

Evaluation:

Level One -- The finished Snowman Sculpture very successfully demonstrates the student's understanding of Sculpture as an art form. The student can very successfully identify the additive and subtractive process of clay building. The snowman sculpture very successfully uses at least four detail additions to create the character of the snowman. The snowman sculpture very successfully utilizes the three clay building techniques: slab, coil, and pinch pot. The student has shown a high level of craftsmanship and technical skill. The student very successfully completed a narrative about the snowman.

Level Two -- The finished Snowman Sculpture successfully demonstrates the student's understanding of Sculpture as an art form. The student can successfully identify the additive and subtractive process of clay building. The snowman sculpture successfully uses at least two detail additions to create the character of the snowman. The snowman sculpture successfully utilizes the three clay building techniques: slab, coil, and pinch pot. The student has shown a good craftsmanship and technical skill. The student successfully completed a narrative about the snowman.

Level Three -- The finished Snowman Sculpture adequately shows the student's understanding of Sculpture as an art form. The student makes an attempt to identify the additive and subtractive process of clay building. The snowman sculpture uses at least one detail additions to create the character of the snowman. The snowman sculpture adequately utilizes the three clay building techniques: slab, coil, and pinch pot. The student has shown average craftsmanship and technical skill. The student completed a narrative about the snowman.

Level Four -- The finished Snowman Sculpture does not demonstrate the student's understanding of Sculpture as an art form. The student makes no attempt to identify the additive and subtractive process of clay building. The snowman sculpture does not use detail additions to create the character of the snowman. The snowman sculpture adequately does not use all of the three clay building techniques: slab, coil, and pinch pot. The student has shown poor craftsmanship and technical skill. The student has not completed a narrative about the snowman.

Tips: Keeping hands moist while constructing the sculpture and allowing slow drying will limit the amount of cracks in the clay.

Notes: Assist students to identify sculpture in their environment.

Extension: Surface may have three-dimensional objects glued onto it to enhance the visual interest.

Resources:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sculpture>

<http://www.artlex.com/ArtLex/s/sculpture.html>

<http://42explore.com/sculpture.htm>

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