Lesson Topic/Focus: Drawing with Scissors

Grade/Year Level: 3/4

AusVELS Domain: The Arts

AusVELS Dimension: Creating and Making

Duration of Lesson: 60 Minutes

Learning Outcomes/Indicators

“Students create and present works in a range of arts forms … they select and combine a range of arts elements, principles and/or conventions, and use a range of skills, techniques and processes, media, materials, equipment and technologies” (AusVELS, 2013).

• Students will exercise their scissor skills and colour composition to create a “Drawing with Scissors” collage.

• Students will use the works of French artists and “master of colour” Henri Matisse to influence their products.

• Students will engage in the art process including gathering materials and particular colours, planning the composition, situating the cutouts etc.

• Students will participate in a class discussion about the artist Henri Matisse and his techniques of creating artworks.

• Early finishers will create an ‘Informative Plaque’ for their artwork to be displayed in the classroom gallery.

Assessment: Criteria

• Student’s collage will be collected, assessed and displayed in the classroom - checking for relevant features which have been inspired by the work of Henri Matisse.

• Anecdotal notes will be taken whilst observing student’s art process and engagement with the task.

Background to the Learning

A) Teacher

  o Access the Art Gallery available on the Photo Gallery Tab of this website
• Watch the short video title ‘Henri Matisse – Drawing with Scissors’ on the Resources Tab of this website
• Drawing with Scissors Work Examples (accessible through website from the Resources Tab)

*B) Pupil*

Earlier this term, students in Grade 3/4 participated in an excursion to the National Gallery of Victoria. Here they were able to connect with several artworks, explore different artists and gather a deeper understanding of the art process for various works. This was the first time that many of our students had seen how exhibits are displayed eg. information plaques etc. In the previous lesson, students partook in a whole class brainstorming session in order to recall information learnt from the experience eg. looking and discussing photos and information booklets completed at the gallery.

- *Note: If unable to visit gallery prior to lesson, brainstorm features of an art gallery as a class and visit the National Galley of Victoria’s website.*
  

**Lesson Resources**

- A3 white paper
- Assortment of coloured paper and scraps
- Class set of scissors
- Class set of glue
- White A4 paper and pens/pencils for Early Finishers Task
- Photo Gallery (website)
- ‘Henri Matisse – Drawing with Scissors’ video (website)
- Drawing with Scissors Work Examples (accessible through website from the Resources Tab)

**Content of Lesson**

*A) Introduction* 

(10 minutes)

1. Introduce the lesson by reading the book ‘Henri Matisse: Drawing with Scissors’ to the class. Inform the class that they will be creating an artwork influenced by this artist in the lesson.

2. Play the video (accessed through the website) ‘Henri Matisse – Drawing with Scissors’. Ask students to think about the techniques used by Matisse whilst creating his artworks.
B) Development  

(10 minutes)

1. Discussion of Matisse’s art techniques.  
   **Focus Question:** How does Matisse create his collages?

2. Discussion of material used.  
   **Focus Question:** What materials does Matisse use?

3. Explore the Photo Gallery (accessed through the website) with the students.  
   **Focus Question:** What do you notice about all of Matisse’s artworks?

4. Discussion of abstractedness of collage.  
   **Focus Question:** Does Matisse draw the shapes before he cuts them?  
   **Focus Question:** Are the shapes perfect?  
   **Focus Question:** Is it okay to cut without a particular shape in mind?

5. Share the famous quote by Henri Matisse – “It is not enough to place colors, however beautiful, one beside the other; colors must also react on one another” – with the class.  
   **Focus Question:** What will you think about when choosing your colours?  
   **Focus Question:** Will you chose all the same colour for the whole of your collage?

6. Discuss the resources and materials available to the students. Inform students that they must use an A3 white sheet for their base and scissors and coloured paper to create the collage, which will be glued to the A3 sheet when finalised. Show students Drawing with Scissors Work examples for inspiration.  
   **Focus Question:** What art process will you need to go through to create your collage?

C) Consolidation and Practice  

(30 minutes)

Explain and provide steps outlining the task.

- Before collecting your materials, ensure that you have a plan in your mind for your collage eg. which colours you would like to use etc.

- Collect one sheet of A3 paper and the coloured paper which you would like to use, as well as scissors and glue.

- Keeping in mind the video of Henri Matisse creating an artwork, use your scissors to create interesting cutouts which will form your collage.

- Remember to have no particular shape in mind – do not draw your shapes before you cut them. It is okay to be abstract!

- Place the cutouts on your A3 sheet in an interesting way, making sure to look for composition and colours which compliment each other.
• When you have finalised your collage, glue the cutouts onto the A3 sheet to create a ‘Drawing with Scissors’ masterpiece like Henri Matisse.

The teacher will ask the students to repeat the instructions, ensuring that they understand the expectations and what is required of them. The teacher will also ensure that the students work quietly, share the resources and ask for assistance when necessary.

Teacher role: Explain instructions clearly and ensure all students are working cooperatively and successfully. The teacher will also be taking anecdotal notes as an informal assessment whilst observing the students undertaking their collages and engaging in the process.

Early Finishers – Extension Activities

Students who finish early will be instructed to create an ‘Informative Plaque’ for their artwork. This must include the title of the piece, the author, the date and a short blurb about the collage. The blurb can incorporate materials used, the process undertaken, feelings associated with the artworks, influences etc. This will be situated with the artwork on display in the classroom gallery.

D) Closure  

(10 minutes)

• Two early finishers will be asked to share their artwork with the class, as well as their ‘Informative Plaque’.

• Other students will be informed that each collage will be displayed in the classroom gallery for everyone to look at.

• Students will be asked to provide feedback on the lesson – how they went about choosing colours, difficulties cutting without a particular shape in mind, methods for placing the cutouts in an interesting way etc.

• Recap main concepts from lesson:
  o art techniques used by Henri Matisse
  o importance of colour composition
  o elements included in ‘Informative Plaque’

• Assessment Strategies:
  o Student’s collage will be collected, assessed and displayed in the classroom - checking for relevant features which have been inspired by the work of Henri Matisse.
  o Anecdotal notes will be taken whilst observing student’s art process and engagement with the task.