

5 E's Lesson Plan Template

Lesson: Ledger Art— Part 2 *“The Old and the New”—My Journal*

Objective:

To create a ledger art journal that reflects aspects of Lakota culture and personal experiences.

Ledger Art Part 1—*“Rosebud School Album”* sets the foundation for this lesson and for Lesson: Ledger Art Part 3—*“A Dream Story”*, although any of the three parts can be stand-alone lessons.

Essential Question(s):

How do people develop ideas and understandings of society, culture, and history through their interactions with and analysis of art?

How can individual awareness developed through engagement with visual imagery lead to art appreciation, and understanding of others?

Materials/Resources

Teacher:

Drawing media include a variety of pencil grades and sizes; colored pencils, pastels, chalk, conte crayon, charcoal, watercolors.

Plains Indian Ledger Art | Home

<https://plainsledgerart.org>

Click on *View Ledgers*, click on *Select Tribe*; Click on any of the six (6) *Lakota (Sioux) Tribes*.

Elements and Principles of Art (14:20 minutes well spent)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qIOfozTIY8>

Student:

Ledger, journal, or composition notebook

2 Different kinds of erasers

Essential Vocabulary

Line	Pattern
Shape	Rhythm
Form	Ledger
Color, Value	
Texture	
Space	

Learning Experience

Standards and Practice:
 OSEU: 3: Culture and Language

Anchor Standard 2: K-12.Cr. 2.1: Organize and develop artistic ideas and work. 6-8.VA. Cr.2.1; 6-8.VA.Cr.2.3
 Anchor Standard 8: K-12.Re.8: Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work. 6-8.VA.Re.8.1
 Anchor Standard 10: K-12.Cn10: Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art. 6-8.VA.Cn.10.1

Cultural Integration:

“...Some of the best-known “ledger” art was created at Fort Marion, in Saint Augustine, Florida. Between 1875 and 1878, seventy-two Cheyenne, Kiowa, Comanche, Arapaho, and Caddo men were imprisoned there because of their involvement in events connected to the Red River Wars in Indian Territory (later Oklahoma). Encouraged to draw by their military captors, twenty-six of the prisoners, mostly Cheyenne and Kiowa, produced hundreds of drawings and a number of books detailing their former lives as warriors, hunters, and suitors as well as their new lives as prisoners and students...”

Keeping History: Plains Indian Ledger Drawing
 Ledger Drawings - National Museum of American History

http://americanhistory.si.edu/documentsgallery/exhibitions/ledger_drawing_3.html



Plains Indian prisoners arriving at Fort Marion, Florida *Unknown photographer about 1875. Courtesy Yale Collection of Western Americana. Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript library, Image: 1004474*

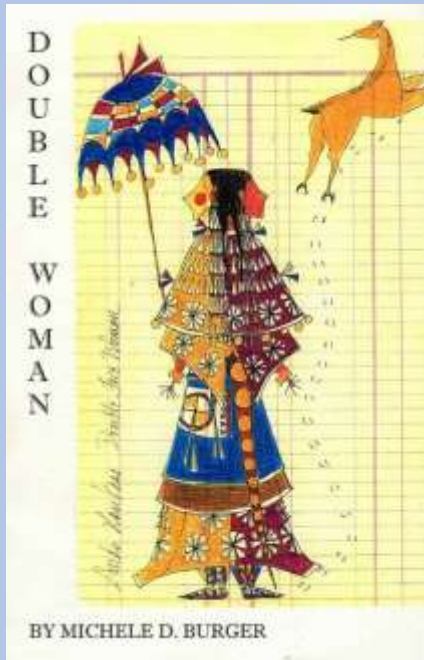
What do you see when you observe this picture critically? (Enlarge on website at left.)

Where are prisoners held by governments under similar situations at this time?

I Can Statement(s):

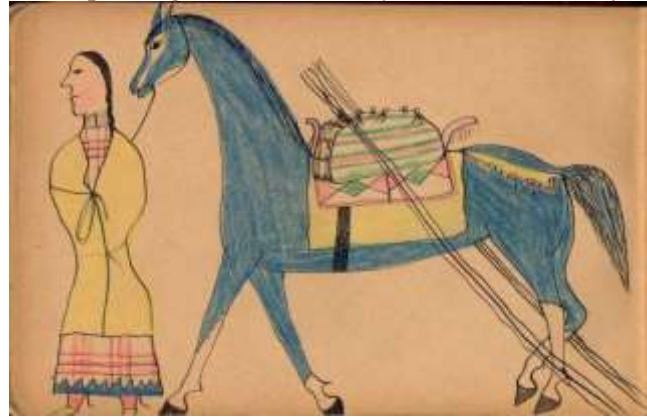
I can relate to ledger art concepts (heroics, respect, love for animals, etc.).
 I can see similarities/differences in traditional and contemporary ledger art.
 I can use elements and principles of art to make my images *pop*.
 I can find meaning in ledger art when I observe it closely and seriously.

Engage: Activating Strategy/Hook:



At left, Contemporary Artist Michele D. Burger

Why do you think Burger made this painting? Why do you think that? Look at her painting for a moment. What observations can you make? What purpose does the painting serve? What do you see that makes you say that?



Ancient Way of Travelling, Walter Bone Shirt Ledger, Lakota (Sioux) - Brulé

How is this drawing, above, like the one at left? What are important differences?

What do these two paintings have in common?

What stories do the paintings tell?

Explore: Learning Experiences

Big Idea—*Traditional* Ledger art has transitioned to Contemporary Art

It is only by drawing often, drawing everything, drawing incessantly, that one fine day you discover to your surprise that you have rendered something in its true character.

--Cille Pissarro

Action Steps:

1. Go to the *Tribal Index* to find 13 Sioux ledgers on the *American Indian Ledger Art* website. Choose five favorite drawings. Observe each drawing closely for a minimum of 5 minutes. What aspects of the drawings are most important? How can you describe one of the drawings so someone could figure out what it looks and feels like without seeing it for themselves? After 5 minutes of observing each drawing, write down every detail you see. What patterns, shapes, and textures do you see? What title would you give each of the 5 drawings?
2. Use your observations to generate a collection of ideas. How do the observations reflect YOUR current interests and concerns that you could make a part of YOUR ledger art-making?
3. Pre-Drawing: 1) Practice with pencils making marks such as darkness, lightness, softness, hardness, smudgy, silvery. Make notes about similarities and differences, noting the type of pencil you used. 2) Draw a few interesting organic objects (from ledger drawings that you are unfamiliar with) so that you **MUST LOOK** closely at the objects as you draw. Save your practice pieces in your journal, as a record of your drawing ability **BEFORE** you learned and practiced more. Keep these pre-drawings in your journal.
4. Practice Pencil Drawings: 2) Start your ledger art drawings in your

journal, five of them, sketches to be revised. They should reflect YOUR culture, interests, experiences, and in some way represent Lakota culture. How will your observer know your work is based on *traditional* and/or contemporary Lakota ledger art and its concepts? How are you going to “describe” your ideas visually using the elements: size, line, color, shape, space, texture, value (lightness/darkness of a color), and rhythm? (Lakota artists showed movement, a principle of art, in their drawings.)

5. If you replicate any of the drawings in some way, give credit to the original artist by signing your name and adding “after... (Name of the artist)”

Explain: Learning Experiences



[Lakota] Warrior riding horse holding gun and rope
Goodwyn Ledger

Explain movement seen in the drawing at left (Also, be observant of movement in other ledger art you observe.) How can you explain Lakota artists’ ability to use principles of art, without formal training, e. g., to capture movement in their art? How did they know how to do that?

Which of your life experiences came to mind as you observed Lakota practices in the ledger art?

How can you connect the subject matter, such as displaying power, to situations that are common in your day and age?

How can thinking about what you see in the ledger art drawings make meaning that relates to you and your experiences?

Who will you ask to observe and provide you with feedback for your sketches? How will you use it to develop and complete your five ledger art drawings for your journal?

Elaborate: Extending & Defining



“Three Affiliated Women”
by Lauren Good Day Giago

Understanding the elements and principles of art and how to apply them will be used as students observe, modify, and create their own ledger art.

Lakota people with their creative nature explored new ideas and adapted them over time. In that way, ledger art is a progression and a life lesson to show that it, like everything else, changes over time.

Knowledge about ledger art in daily life continues to be useful, as an example of how to be resourceful. Lakota people used whatever they had around them to meet their needs. This was especially true when it came to creating beauty. Resourcefulness, coupled with imagination and inventiveness, led the Lakota to problem-solve and express themselves by creating useful objects of beauty. This was in the past—it is still true for people today. We use diaries, journals, ledgers to continue recording events and “spotlighting” people.

Evaluate: Summarizing Strategie	<p>Compare before, during, and after drawings to see progress.</p> <p><u>Questioning Strategy</u>: How does your personal artwork convey your intended message?</p>	
Differentiation Strategies		
Extension	Intervention	Language Development
<p>See more about Artist Walter Bone Shirt, on the <i>Plains Indian Ledger Art</i> website. (Look at the work of other artists to learn about Lakota history, culture, and ledger art.)</p> <p>See OSEU Lessons: Ledger Art Part1 Ledger Art Part 3.</p>	<p>Ask probing questions to help students describe drawings and better understand Lakota concepts in the art work: What kinds of things do you see? What else do you see?</p>	
Assessment(s)		
Formative Self-Evaluation:	Summative Final Project—Rubric or Rating Scale	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What do you think is good and not so good about your drawings? 2. Do you think you are doing a good or bad job? Why? 3. Why do you think other people will want to see your works of art? 4. What do you think other people will say about your art pieces? Why do you think that? 5. What grade would you give yourself when your work is completed? How will you arrive at it? 6. What will you do with this work? 7. What do you think will be worth remembering about your drawings? 	<p>Teacher and students will develop a rubric or rating scale based on objective and standards—before beginning the project. Sample questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How are knowledge and personal experiences depicted in your ledger? Event? Subject? • How well does your intention, meaning show through your art-making? What story does it tell? • What artistic ideas can be seen in your work? (Elements of art, images, background, objects?) • How can an observer know your work is based on Lakota ledger art concept? Your experience? • Would your art be classified as traditional, contemporary art or both? Why? 	

Teacher Reflection: (Next steps?)