

Block Printing Lesson Plan

Endangered Species: Their "Impression" Upon Us

Grade Level
5 - 8



PURPOSE:

As time progresses and our planet changes we sometimes forget some of the beautiful creatures that share the world with us. Environments evolve and expand resulting in some of the lives of animals that share our planet to become endangered.

This project allows students to interpret their "Impression" of an endangered animal and its environment through a single color or multi-color block print.

TIME REQUIRED: 9 - 45 minute sessions

MATERIALS

1 - 6" x 9" ECO Printing Block, Quick Release Lino Cutter Set, Block Printing Paper, Mounting Boards, Block Printing Ink (black, red, blue, yellow, etc.), Brayers, Inking tray/bench hook plate, Drawing paper, Pencils, Pens, Eraser, Masking Tape, Mat Frames

PROCESS

Session 1

Introduce students to block printing by showing them prints by former students and various artists.

After discussing the prints, explain the block-printing process. Discuss the theme and purpose for the project, and any ideas students may have.

Briefly review the history of 5 different animals and how they have come to be endangered and what kind of environment they live in.

Students will then be able to choose from 5 different animals and begin sketching their ideas onto paper.

Session 2

Each student then selects one of their sketches to create a final, more refined drawing.

Demonstrate how to transfer a drawing onto printing material and then allow students to begin the transfer of their final drawing.

Be sure drawing is taped to printing block before the transfer process is started.

Session 3-5

Demonstrate proper cutting techniques and use of block printing carving knives and handle.

Review safety rules to avoid injury & remind students to always cut away from their hands and body.

Allow students to begin cutting out their image as soon as they are ready.

Session 6-7

Demonstrate printing procedures and proper use of tools, including inking tray and brayer.

Students will first complete a "Test" print, then follow with a series of at least 5 prints.

Encourage students to experiment with ink colors or using multiple colors per print.

Session 8-9

Review prints with each student and assist them in choosing the best print(s) for mounting.

Students will then mount prints onto mounting board and frame with pre-cut mat frame. Put up on display for a class critique.

* TEACHING AIDS

- 1) Prints created by former students and master artists.
- 2) Printed project packets including:
 - a. Brief history of the 5 endangered animals
 - b. Tracable outline images of animals
 - c. Printmaking history
 - d. Cutting techniques, printing & inking instructions
 - e. Image transfer instructions

EVALUATION

Students will be evaluated on:

- 1) Printing technique
- 2) Composition design
- 3) Incorporation of theme and purpose
- 4) Willingness to experiment with material
- 5) Craftsmanship

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