Small Schools Program

As an extension of Flying Arts' Connecting Arts with School Curriculum (CASC) program, the Small Schools Program (SSP) is for schools with 50 or less students in regional and remote Queensland. This unique program offers the support of a registered primary teacher/artist to collaborate with small schools to plan and deliver an incursion combining arts and non-art curriculum. Ongoing support is a unique feature of this specialised program.

This program is intended to develop confidence in the planning and delivery of arts-rich experiences in the classroom, better understanding of how to deliver on arts curriculum, how to connect arts into other areas of curriculum to enhance teaching and learning, to enhance practical skills in the visual and media arts and to collaborate with artist to deliver arts.

This template and materials are intended as a resource and source of ideas for educators to use as a model.

SCHOOL: Thargomindah State School

TEACHER: Trish Lockock

LOCATION: South West Queensland

YEAR LEVEL: P - 6

LESSON LINKS: Visual Arts / Science

ARTIST: Pamela Denise

INTRODUCTION:

Thargomindah is a town and locality in the Bulloo Shire 1000 km west of Brisbane. Thargomindah State School has 25 students from Prep to Year 6 with 2 children in Kindergarten. The school has commenced a recycling initiative as all the town's waste becomes landfill.

LESSON IDEA:

The idea for the lesson is for the students to explore the principals of Resource Recovery and Material Re-Use in two ways.

1. To reconstitute discarded office paper and domestic egg cartons to make artisan hand made paper that can be used to make small gifts.

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2. To utilise discarded materials to build a sculptural installation to raise awareness of some of the Recycling issues.   Students will explore wind/kinetic energy and gravity and collaborate in the creation of a kinetic mobile for the school's parade area.

AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM LINKS:

F-2
Art

Use and experiment with different materials, techniques, technologies and processes to make artworks (ACAVAM107 - Scootle)

Create and display artworks to communicate ideas to an audience (ACAVAM108 - Scootle)

Science

The way objects move depends on a variety of factors, including their size and shape (ACSSU005 - Scootle)

Everyday materials can be physically changed in a variety of ways (ACSSU018 - Scootle)

Different materials can be combined for a particular purpose (ACSSU031 - Scootle)

3-4

Art

Present artworks and describe how they have used visual conventions to represent their ideas (ACAVAM112 - Scootle)

Use materials, techniques and processes to explore visual conventions when making artworks (ACAVAM111 - Scootle)

Science

A change of state between solid and liquid can be caused by adding or removing heat (ACSSU046 - Scootle)

Natural and processed materials have a range of physical properties that can influence their use (ACSSU074 - Scootle)

Forces can be exerted by one object on another through direct contact or from a distance

5-6

Art

Develop and apply techniques and processes when making their artworks (ACAVAM115 - Scootle)

Plan the display of artworks to enhance their meaning for an audience (ACAVAM116 - Scootle)

Science

Changes to materials can be reversible or irreversible (ACSSU095 - Scootle)

Light from a source forms shadows and can be absorbed, reflected and refracted

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APPROACH AND SEQUENCE OF LESSON:

Students are to be grouped into two groups; P-2 (14 students) and Years 3-6 (13 students).

Scheduling Consideration:
The process of paper making requires a 12 – 24 hour interval to allow the reconstituted paper to dry out. To enable this, Stage 1 Paper Making should be scheduled for each group in the morning of Day 1.

Sunday afternoon – Artist to prepare one tub of pulp of discarded office paper so it can soak overnight to be used in Stage 1 Paper Making sessions. Students will prepare a second pulp type using egg cartons as part of Stage 1.

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Day 1

P – 2   Stage 1 Paper Making
          View samples, storyboard process
          Sort materials, prepare egg carton pulp, set up frames, use pulps (2) to create paper
          sheets, press, dry

Recess

3 – 6   Stage 1 Paper Making
          View samples, storyboard process
          Sort materials, prepare egg carton pulp, set up frames, use pulps (2) to create paper
          sheets, press, dry

Lunch

3 – 6   Mobile sculpture

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Day 2

P – 2   Mobile sculpture

Recess

3 – 6   Basket making with recycled magazine paper

          Stage 2 Paper Making – examine dried paper, explore effects, document

          Discuss gift making with Handmade Paper   (subject to time)

Lunch – Artist install Mobile & set up display table in Parade area

P – 2   Stage 2 Paper Making – remove paper from mesh, explore effects, document

Discuss gift making with Handmade Paper   (subject to time)

Artist to set up Pop Up Gallery
Closing Ceremony – Pop Up Gallery in Parade area showing completed Artworks

RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS:

6 x glossy colour magazines ie. Womens Weekly
Approx. 200 sheets of used office paper – ie. photocopy paper that has been printed on
12 x egg cartons
Used A4 & larger envelopes – one for each student to store their fragile handmade paper
Large quantity of used plastic drink bottles, hopefully rinsed out and dried
A large cardboard box to use as a spray booth

3 cans of aerosol paint in attractive colours that look good together:
say a scarlet coral, apricot orange, and a pale, golden yellow (sometimes called primrose) or,
a turquoise, pale sky blue and indigo or perhaps a fresh apple green,
a funky 70's purple, pale orange, and pink
Its difficult to prescribe the selection of colours because your choice may be limited, we are turning the bottles into whirligigs and then putting them together so it will look like a mad flower arrangement or star burst.

Paper Making Equipment

5 egg beaters if that's possible, to be used by students in teams of 2, each working one bucket of pulp
7 x plastic tote trays or baking trays with walls higher than 6cm, need to be big enough to fit frames lying flat ie. A3 size
6 x plastic buckets
6 x old towels that can be stained or cut up
4 x old sheets that can be stained or cut up
6 x big sponges or face washers, or hand towels – used to soak up water from frames
6 rolling pins or small plastic chopping boards – used to press paper sheets when set to dry

Manual Presses – can be made from stacked books, bricks or other heavy objects that can be stacked.

Basket Making with Recycled Magazine Paper

Scissors

Ruler
Part of magazine
Cellotape – singular small piece, access to the class dispenser will be fine
Glue stick

Paper Making

7 x Frames – Deckles & Moulds
Mesh for frames
Staplegun
Duct tape
Plastic drop sheets
1 x egg beater
1 x electric *bar mix*
Raffia – 1 bundle for packaging
2 x hole punches
Small selection of interest papers to demonstrate collage possibilities

Mobile Sculpture

Long nosed pliers to assemble mobile
Small battery operated hand drill
Plastic gloves, eye protective wear and simple respirator to use whilst applying aerosol, please note students will not be using the aerosol, and it will be applied outside using the cardboard box spray box, (if one can be acquired).
1 roll of tie wire

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

Attachments:

1. How to Make and Recycle Paper
2. Five Principles in Defence of Recycling: Why Waste Diversion is Essential to a Circular Economy by Natalie Walker, published Jan 2016

OUTCOME:

Each student:

- Produced handmade paper sheets from used office paper
- Wove a small paper basket using paper from discarded glossy magazines
- Made whirligigs out of clean, used drink bottles. These were assembled into a candelabra style mobile for the Parade Area.

The senior students made small gift items such as note paper, gift card tags and book marks out of the hand made paper.