

GELATIN PRINT EXPLORATIONS

Lauren Robles | Lesson Plan | Grade 7 | Printmaking



OBJECTIVE: Through the exploration of the qualities of gelatin prints, students will learn that by selecting and combining textures they can create multiple, unique monoprints.

MATERIALS: Gelatin plates, textures (string, corrugated cardboard, leaves, plastic pieces, lace, etc.), brayer, tray, pencil, drying rack, printing ink, colored paper.

RATIONALE: This lesson serves as an introduction to printmaking and its qualities, while incorporating the theme of abstracted design explorations. Students will create gelatin monoprints while gaining an understanding of the characteristics that make printmaking unique (transfer, multiples) as well as the qualities of a successful print (good inking, clean edges, centered).

SEQUENCE: INTRODUCTION: Students explore potato printing as an introduction to printmaking and its qualities, transfer and multiples. The class then discusses the history of printmaking and printing vocabulary.

EXPERIMENTATION & CREATION: With gelatin printing, students can explore a wide range of texture materials to create monoprints. Students can explore overlapping colors and textures as well. Students place ink in the center of their tray and use the brayer to evenly spread the ink on the tray. They then place their gelatin in the center of the printing template and roll the brayer on the plate. After they place textures on the inked plate, check their fingers for ink, take a sheet of paper on the plate in line with the template. They then lift the paper, write their signature on the bottom right corner of their print, and place the print on the drying rack.

REFLECTION: Students answer the following questions in a written reflection: *What was the most difficult part of gelatin printing? How did you solve this problem? Which textures did you find worked best in your gelatin prints? Which overlapping colors do you think were most successful? If you could do this again, what would you do differently?*

RUBRIC:

	<i>Advanced</i>	<i>Proficient</i>	<i>Developing</i>	<i>Emerging</i>
CONCEPTUAL THINKING	The student exemplified the theme of exploration. The printing portfolio contains numerous prints with multiple color, overlapping, and texture combinations.	The student showed the theme of exploration. The printing portfolio contains some prints with multiple color, overlapping, and texture combinations.	The student struggled with the theme of exploration. The printing portfolio contains few prints with multiple color, overlapping, and texture combinations.	The student did not understand the theme of exploration. The printing portfolio contains no prints with multiple color, overlapping, and texture combinations.
EXPLORATION OF MATERIALS	The student successfully demonstrated an aptitude of the printing process for the all four printing plates (potato, scratchfoam, gelatin).	The student demonstrated some aptitude of the printing process for the four printing plates (potato, scratchfoam, gelatin).	The student demonstrated some aptitude of the printing process for only a few of the four printing plates (potato, scratchfoam, gelatin).	The student demonstrated no aptitude of the printing process for all four printing plates (potato, scratchfoam, gelatin).
PROBLEM SOLVING	The student's printing portfolio demonstrates a clear and thoughtful graphic understanding of successful prints.	The student's printing portfolio demonstrates a general graphic understanding of successful prints.	The student's printing portfolio demonstrates a slight graphic understanding of successful prints.	The student's printing portfolio demonstrates no graphic understanding of successful prints.
INNOVATION	All of the plates are creative. The student used the materials in interesting and unique ways throughout the printing process.	Most of the plates are original, however the student could have been more interesting and unique throughout the printing process.	Few aspects of the plates are original. The student used the materials in typical and uninteresting ways throughout the printing process.	None of the plates are original. The student used the materials in thoughtless ways throughout the printing process.
CRAFTSMANSHIP	The final prints show that the creator took great pride in his/her work. The best prints exhibit all the three qualities of successful prints (good inking, clean edges, centered).	The final prints show that the creator took pride in his/her work. The best prints exhibit some of the three qualities of successful prints (good inking, clean edges, centered).	The final prints show that the creator took little pride in his/her work. The best prints exhibit little of the three qualities of successful prints (good inking, clean edges, centered).	The final prints show that the creator did not take pride in his/her work. The best prints do not exhibit the three qualities of successful prints (good inking, clean edges, centered).