Superheroes - What is your Superpower

Central Focus	Superheroes
Grade Level	2nd Grade
Class Size	17-20
Time	3 class periods on Saturdays - 9:00am - 10:50am
Class Demographics	

National Visual Arts Standards Addressed

VA:Cr1.2.2a - Make art or design with various materials and tools to explore personal interests, questions, and curiosity

VA:Cr2.2.2a - Demonstrate safe procedures for using and cleaning art tools, equipment, and studio spaces

VA:Cr3.1.2a - Discuss and reflect with peers about choices made in creating artwork

VA:Pr4.1.2a - Categorize artwork based on a theme or concept for an exhibit

Common Core State Standards Addressed

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.3

Describe how characters in a story respond to major events and challenges.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.5

Describe the overall structure of a story, including describing how the beginning introduces the story and the ending concludes the action.

UNIT OVERVIEW

In this unit, students will imagine themselves as a superhero and create bracelet cuff that explores *symbols* in relation to their superhero. Students will also complete a comic strip that provides more context to their superhero (background or a short story about them). The unit will provide students with the opportunity to think about what problems (things that bother them) are common in their community and how their superhero can help make the community better.

Forms	2D		3D		4D
Frames	Cultural	Subjective	Struc	tural	Postmodern

Conceptua	Artwork	Artist	Audience	World
Framework				

Student Prior Knowledge and Conceptions

Students must have knowledge on some form of superhero

Students must know of problems in their communities or in parts of the world (littering, bullying, endangered animals, environment, etc.)

Interdisciplinary Connections

English- The students will be writing a story about their superhero in association with their comic strip and superhero cuff.

Reading- The students will engage in our "mini library" and will participate in reading time.

Social Studies- Students will be considering issues in their communities and ways that their superhero would be able to help.

UNIT OBJECTIVES

As a result of this lesson, students will be able to:

- 1. With Clay, students will create a slab cuff that reflects their superpower through their superhero symbol(s) (VA:Cr1.2.2a)
- With pencil and sentence frame sheet, students will write a 3-5 sentence narrative about their superhero that will help guide their thinking for a cohesive comic strip. (CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.3)
- 3. With pencil, paper, sharpie, students will create a 6 frame comic strip based on their narrative sheet that features their superhero solving a problem in their community (VA:Cr1.2.2a)
- 4. During independent work time and cleanup, students will demonstrate safe procedures with using clay tools by following safety guidelines (VA:Cr2.2.2a)
- 5. Using paint brushes, students will safely glaze the entire superhero cuff with their choice of color. (VA:Cr2.2.2a)
- 6. In small group discussion, students will describe their finished project with their peers and verbally answer prompts regarding their cuff and comic strip (VA:Cr3.1.2a)
- 7. Using a visual worksheet, students will identify a cause they would like to work for and create a superhero appropriate for the cause (VA:Pr4.1.2a)

VA:Cr1.2.2a - Make art or design with various materials and tools to explore personal interests, questions, and curiosity

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VA:Cr3.1.2a - Discuss and reflect with peers about choices made in creating artwork

VA:Pr4.1.2a - Categorize artwork based on a theme or concept for an exhibit

TEACHER MATERIALS Vocab poster Read aloud books Prepped Clay Slabs Line Poster Free time/Carpet time Bogus Paper Clay Steps poster Water dishes Clay tools poster Visual Worksheet printouts Green clay tools Sentence Frame Examples of Cuff Wood stylus Examples of Comic Strips worksheet Paper cups (drying) Comic Strip Templates Glazes Daily Parent Letters Brushes

STUDENT MATERIALS			
 Vocab poster Line Poster Clay techniques poster Clay tools poster Process Schedule handout Comic Strip Templates 	 Free time/Carpet time books: Ladybug Girl and Bubblebee Boy Marvel Superheroes Superhero Mix-&-Match 	 Prepped Clay Slabs Bogus Paper Pointed wood tool Water dishes Green clay tools Paper cups (drying) Glazes Brushes 	

	ARTISTS IN CONTEXT		
Key Artists	Alyssa Bermudez (Lucia the Luchadora Illustrator) Sarah Dillard (Extraordinary Warren)		
Key Artworks	Comic Strips from Extraordinary Warren		

Key	List at least 4 critical questions about key artworks that ground writing and discussion
Critical	activities
Question	What is bothering Lucia?
s	What does she do to stop being bothered?
	What do all the other kids think of her?
	How did she change recess?
	How could you change problems in your community?
	What is Warren trying to accomplish in this story? Looking at the comic strips in this book, are they really detailed or simple?

	VOCABULARY AND LANGUAGE ACQUISITION			
Vocabulary	Symbol - a thing that represents or stands for something else Texture - the feel, appearance, or consistency of a surface or a substance (implied vs. real) Frame- a single complete picture in a series forming a movie, television, or video film. - a single picture in a comic strip. Community - a group of people living in the same place or having a particular characteristic in			
	and goals. - Social Issue - What do you think - What social issue	as a result of sharing common attitudes, interests, when I say the phrase, "social issue" s did you notice in Lucia the Luchadora? s do you notice in your community?		
Language Functions	(analyze, compare/contrast, critique, describe Describe - students will be able to describe	be, interpret, question, etc.) their artwork and discuss it with a small group		
Language Demands	Syntax	Discourse		
Language Tasks and Activities	superhero will be and what the super	nd participate in a group reading activity. Additional		

	Small group critiques- Students will discuss their comic and superhero cuff with each other during production and when they are complete. Writing - Students will write out a short story prior to their comic strip as well as using a visual worksheet to help assess their ideas.
Language Supports	Discussion - Students will engage in discussions with each other and class about their work during and after completion. Demo - Students will gather around teacher and watch/listen as teacher demonstrates how
	to's on clay cuff and glazing
	Writing - Teacher will provide sentence frames to structure students story writing Posters- There will be a vocab, synonym words and line posters on the walls in class.

SPECIAL PRE-INSTRUCTION PREPARATIONS

Room Set Up:

- Decorate room with:
 - o superhero posters
 - Comic book pages
 - Lichtenstein posters
 - Art making technique posters
 - o Costume pieces?
- Pre-roll and dry to leather hard clay slabs
- Print think sheets
 - Print sentence frame sheets (comic narrative)
- Create name tags
- Create classroom library location
- Create stencil sizes for students to use when cutting slab

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR SPECIFIC DIVERSE LEARNERS

Adaptations and Accommodations

- Students their choice in size for their superhero cuff
 - This allows students to do as much or as little if they are struggling with symbols
- Teacher will provide stencil sizes for students to chose their sizing
- Students that are struggling we will offer one on one conversation and less boxes for the comic strip

Enrichment and Extensions

- Allow advanced students to create more comic frames to enhance their superhero's story either extend their comic strip or make another
- Students could add frames that incorporate different perspectives
- Students can write more about their superhero

Activity for Early Finishers

- Have students sketch ideas if finished early and refer to the books provided to enhance creative thinking
- Students can engage in the mini library section of the room

OBJECTIVE-DRIVEN ASSESSMENTS

Formative: Think Sheets (Objective #5), Verbal Discussions (Objective #4), Verbal Feedback (Objective #3)

Summative: Critique (Objective #4), Rubric for completed clay cuff (Objective #1)

REFERENCES

Books:

Lucia the Luciadora

Superhero Instruction Manual

Extraordinary Warren

Websites:

https://www.vyond.com/resources/what-is-a-storyboard-and-why-do-you-need-one/ tips and pointers https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6aTnEanIXBk - Brief video about what a storyboard is

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES AND LEARNING TASKS DAY / LESSON 1

Launch Instruction Methods	
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^{*} Developed and written by Amorah Malzewski, Kylie Clary, and A.J. Kepka, Art Education, Illinois State University, 2019

- Teacher will launch a "get to know you discussion" and provide handouts that help us get to know each other. Ask about previous knowledge with clay
 - Ask about students and their interests

 - Allow everyone to introduce themselves
 - How do you say your name?
 - What school do you go to?
 - What's your favorite color?
 - What's your favorite animal?
 - Name a superhero you have heard of.
 - Already written when students walk in
- Teacher will discuss class procedures and rules.

Discussion, group talk

Instruction

- Teacher will guide students to the reading carpet and read *Lucia* the Luchadora to segway students into our project
 - What is bothering Lucia?
 - What does she do to stop feeling bothered?
 - What do all the kids think of her at first? What do they think at the end?
 - How did she change recess?
 - Do you think that Lucia could be a superhero?
- Teacher will lead discussion about superheroes.
 - What does it mean to be a superhero?
 - How can we identify superheros on sight?
- Teacher will display examples of familiar superheroes using PowerPoint.
 - Batman
 - Superman
 - Wonder Woman
 - The Flash
 - What do you see that is common in how the superheroes look?
 - Captain Planet (do not provide his name)
 - What do you think this superhero's name is?
 - What do you think his cause might be?
 - What tells you that?

- Teacher will display just the superheroes's symbols.
 - Batman

Instruction Methods

- Discussion
- Demo
- Independent work time

- Superman
- Wonder Woman
- Captain Planet
- Teacher defines "Symbol"
- Teacher will ask, "Do you think you could be a superhero?"
- Teacher will bring students to their work tables and hand out think sheet
 - Students will work through think sheet to develop their superhero persona
 - What is your superhero name?
 - What is something that bothers you?
 - What problems would you like to fix?
 - What is your special ability?
 - What **symbol** will represent your superhero?
 - Do you want to hide your real name? Or be known?
 - If students struggle with the sheet, the teacher will guide them to the superhero manual book in the library.
- Teacher will then discuss what the students will be doing
 - We are creating a superhero bracelet cuff
 - Discuss what the project entails
 - Add or subtract clay to create symbols
 - Remember to slip and score
 - Show teacher examples
- Teacher will demonstrate clay techniques
 - Ask students if anyone has used clay before
 - Vocabulary (techniques and tools)
- Teacher will pass out pre slabbed clay, and bogus paper with a green and wood tool
 - Students will be given:
 - Bogus paper placemat
 - Green clay slab
 - Wood stylus or plastic clay tool
 - Cuff template given and students cut it out using a green plastic tool/knife. Multiple templates and sizes will be given and students can choose which they would like to
 - Carve name onto the back before anyone starts creating their cuff
 - Teachers walk around and help students
 - Teacher will ask about vocab words and actively use them in conversation

What symbols are you using? Why?What texture did you show? How did you do that?	
Closure	Instruction Methods
-	· Discussion
- Teacher explains cleanup procedure	
- Wrap cuff around paper cup	
- Where and how to wash hands	
- Where to put tools	
- Turn in worksheet	
- Other cleaning procedures?	
 Students will take their name tag sticker and place them on their cup before molding the piece of clay 	
- Teacher asks group, "What did you learn today?"	
- Teacher writes answers on the board (vocab words,	
tools they now know how to use, how to figure out your	
superpower, etc)	

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES AND LEARNING TASKS DAY / LESSON 2

Launch	Instruction Methods
 Teacher will welcome the "superheroes" back to class using superhero names Heroic music might be playing softly in the background Discuss the think sheets in previous class (connect the issues with the community and hero) "Last week we spent some time on the 'think' sheets…" 	
Instruction	Instruction Methods
Whole group discussion on what a comic strip is Show examples/ Artists Explain that and how a comic strip tells a short story	

- Reiterate the direction of the comic (how it is supposed to relate to community problems)
- Teacher will guide students to the reading carpet and read Extraordinary Warren to segway students into our project
 - What are the parts of a story?
 - (Leading to "Beginning, Middle, and End")
 Other acceptable answers: characters, setting, plot (something happens/a problem is solved)
 - Teacher will discuss the frames in the book
 - Are these comics detailed?
 - How many items are in each box?
 - Can you still tell what is going on, even though there are not many things in there?
 - How do you want to display your superhero?
 - What kind of life does your superhero live?
 - Do they live with their family?
 - Does he/she have siblings, children, or married?
 - Does he/she have a job other than being a superhero?
 - How did you become a superhero?
 - Meteor, Radioactive insect,
 Electrocution, Born with powers?
- Teacher will pass out narrative worksheet
- Teacher will go through each box, one by one, allow students time to answer the questions through discussion and examples.
- Students will fill out narrative worksheet and draw their ideas next to the writing before starting their final comic.
- Students will start drawing their comic until end of class

Closure	Instruction Methods
 Teacher will briefly state clean up procedures and where to place their comic (will be unfinished) Students will discuss with the people around them about their superhero comic 	

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES AND LEARNING TASKS DAY / LESSON 3

Launch	Instruction Methods
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names	er will welcome the "superheroes" back to class using superhero	- Pair-and-Share
-	Heroic music might be playing softly in the background	
Instruction		Instruction Methods
	Teacher will handout finished clay cuffs. - Talk about how they turned out - Discuss procedures on handling the bisque fired clay Teacher will discuss glazing (colors, stirring, brushes, clean up, demo) Students will be allowed 3 different colors, but only one at a time. Students will break into groups that are using the same color Teacher will allow up to 30 minutes of glazing, while walking around answering questions and helping students successfully glaze their project Once all students have completed their glazing, they will continue finishing their comic strip One Teacher will group absent students from last week off and introduce last weeks project for them to work on while the rest finish theirs and engage in critique	 Discussion Demo Independent work time
Closure		Instruction Methods
-	Class will clean up Class will have a recorded critique of the students talking about their projects. DESCRIBE: - What is the superhero's problem? - How did they solve it? - How did you show this? - What they liked most, and/or least	- Discussion Not all students were able to finish so I had the girls who were done talk about their comics to each other. I also had them write the answers to the questions on the board on the back of their sheet.

Connect to students prior learning,