



Academic Resource for Teachers & Students

NICOLE PIETRANTONI

02.08.18 - 04.15.18

6-8



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lesson overview

lesson plan

Designed to extend and enhance the learning experience of our exhibits while linking to core curriculum subject matter.

lesson objectives

- Learn about book making as a tool for expression with both text and image.
- Use an autobiographical experience to write an expressive essay.
- Develop a story that is sequential, descriptive, with a setting as the foundation.
- Explore the relationship between a visual illustration and text.

core curriculum tie-ins

Sixth through Eighth Grades:
Visual Art and English Language Arts.

lesson overview

On the ARTS tour students will learn about the artwork and ideas of Nicole Pietrantonì. Then students will reflect on their own experiences with nature and create a folded book that illustrates and describes a personal narrative using text and image.

length of class

One to Three Class Sessions.

supplies

- Copy Paper.
- 18X24 Drawing Paper.
- Pencils.
- Pens (or Fine Point Sharpies).
- Color Pencils.
- Popsicle Sticks (to use as a Bone Folder).
- Large Poster of Nature.
- Scissors.



NICOLE PIETRANTONI - GREENS

core curriculum tie-ins

6th - 8th grade English Language Arts

Writing Standard 3 Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.

- a. Engage and orient the reader by establishing a context and introducing a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally and logically.
- d. Use precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to convey experiences and events.
- e. Provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on the narrated experiences or events.

6th grade Visual Art

Standard 6.V.CR.2: Formulate an artistic investigation of personally relevant content for creating art.

Standard 6.V.CR.6: Reflect on whether personal artwork conveys the intended meaning, and revise accordingly.

7th - 8th grades Visual Art

Standard 7-8.V.CR.5: Demonstrate persistence in developing skills with various materials, methods, and approaches in creating works of art or design.

Standard 7-8.V.CR.10: Select, organize, and design images and words to make visually clear and compelling presentations.



NICOLE PIETRANTONI -

ABOUT

Nicole Pietrantonì: Alas, Alack

Interested in our complex relationship with the natural world, contemporary printmaker Nicole Pietrantonì creates large-scale installations and works on paper that speak to the inevitability of competing stories and representations. Her innovative work combines digital and traditional printmaking techniques, most recently culminating in several series of accordion books that each expand to create panoramic landscapes covering entire walls and spilling out onto the floor. Within these vast pieces, she seeks to engage nature as an accumulation of processes, perceptions, and narratives – a dynamic and shifting site open for interpretation.

Her installations weave, evoke, inspire and invite you to look closer, to delight in the details that in turn offer a complete image unlike any you thought you would experience.



NICOLE PIETRANTONI - SUNSET STRIPS II



NICOLE PIETRANTONI - THE ARTIST



NICOLE PIETRANTONI - IMPLICATIONS

lesson plan

1. Discuss the artwork of Nicole Pietrantonì. Point out how her printed books unfold to construct a large composite sculptural image. Ask students: "Why not just print a large image? Or make a large book?" Ask students what themes they see in Pietrantonì's artwork. Nicole says she explores "the complex relationship between human beings and nature". Have students think about their personal relationship to nature. Tell students they will write a short autobiographical essay inspired by an experience in nature. They will then 'publish' this story in a folded book form that will unfold to reveal a large illustration that connects to their narrative.

2. Ask students to begin brainstorming

on the theme of nature and reflect on a memorable experiences in nature. To further inspire students, read Pietrantonì's artist statement. She states: "Specifically, my artistic research and work examines the complex relationship between human beings and nature. While nature may be positioned as a neutral space, it is, in reality, a site of competing stories and representations. From the works of painters and early photographers to movies and tourism brochures, nature functions as a place of individual exploration and reverence, a site of resource and profit, and a respite from daily routines in the search for authentic experience. Inherent in any representation of nature is a simplification of its complexity..."

(Optional: Connect to literature standards and use excerpts from suggested readings that are nature themed and descriptive).

3. Once students have decided on a specific experience to write from, ask them to make a list of details from the setting and occurrence to include in the essay. Discuss using sensory language as a tool to build an expressive essay. As students begin to draft their narrative, emphasize the need for an introduction, body, and conclusion. Use the resources to further teach the elements of an essay.

4. As students finish a first draft of the essay, pause to demonstrate the one-sheet book



NICOLE PIETRANTONI - PRECIPITOUS



NICOLE PIETRANTONI - PRECIPITOUS BOOKS



NICOLE PIETRANTONI - PRECIPITOUS BOOK

lesson plan continued

form using a poster. With this folding method, one large image can be turned into a book (and therefore a book can be unfolded into one image). Like in Pietrantonis work, students will explore layering text over an image. Explain that folding paper precisely is an essential requirement of a one-sheet book. On a table, show students how to line up and secure the edges of the paper carefully with one hand and then how to use a finger from their other hand to press on the center of fold, starting in the middle and moving up and down the fold. Finally, demonstrate how to smooth the crease with the side of a bone folder. To start, fold the poster in half lengthwise (hotdog). Fold in half again, short ways (hamburger), and

again (hamburger). Now unfold everything to reveal 8 equal rectangles. Fold the paper in half (hamburger) and cut down the centerfold halfway. Unfold the paper and fold again lengthwise. Finally push the edges towards center to allow the slit to open creating pages. See resources for a complete diagram.

5. Have students try this bookmaking method on a sheet of copy paper. Once completed, students can use this practice paper, with its 8 equal parts, to layout the text of their essay, think about pacing, editing the sequence and sketching a background illustration. Focusing on the setting of the narrative and sketching a

background image can help students add specific details to the essay. The image created for the background should relate to the setting of the story and is only revealed fully as the book is unfolded.

6. Encourage students to revise drafts of the background sketch and the essay with feedback from peers. Once students have a final draft of the essay and a final drawing on a one-sheet book (with larger 18X24 paper), they can layout the text with pen or a fine tip sharpie.

8. Share stories - take a 'gallery' tour so that students can read and unfold each other's books.



NICOLE PIETRANTONI - HAVENED

vocabulary

Body – Body text is the text forming the main content of a book.

Context - A context is the set of circumstances or facts that surround a particular event, situation, etc.

Conclusion – The phrase in conclusion means “finally, to sum up,” and is used to introduce some final comments at the end of a speech or piece of writing.

Detail – A detail is any of the small parts that go to make up something; an individual feature, fact, or item.

Description - A description is to give an account or representation in words.

Experience - An experience is a direct observation of or participation in events as a basis of knowledge.

Illustration - An illustration is a pictorial example serving to clarify or prove something.

Nature - Nature is the phenomena of the physical world collectively, including plants, animals, the landscape, and other features and products of the earth, as opposed to humans or human creations.

Sequence - A sequence is a particular order in which related events, movements, or things follow each other.

Sensory - Sensory relates to feelings or the physical senses.

Setting - A setting is the place or type of surroundings where something is positioned or where an event takes place.



NICOLE PIETRANTONI - PRECIPITOUS BOOKS



NICOLE PIETRANTONI - PRECIPITOUS BOOKS

resources

Nicole Pietrantonì:

<http://www.nicole-pietrantonì.com>

Autobiographical Essay Writing :

<https://www.teachervision.com/subjects/language-arts-writing/creative-writing>

<https://www.nwp.org/cs/public/print/resource/922>

<https://www.time4writing.com/middle-school/paragraph-writing/>

One-Sheet Book Fold:

<https://pictureengine.net/?p=7960>

http://www.laurenstringer.com/uploads/2/5/6/4/25641572/make_a_six-page_book_out_of_one_sheet_of_paper.pdf

Book Arts:

http://centralpt.com/upload/417/9998_BookMakingLessonssm.pdf



NICOLE PIETRANTONI - IMPLICATIONS