

BIG IDEA:

ARTISTS ARE INSPIRED BY NATURE.

ENDURING UNDERSTANDING:

ARTISTS EXPERIMENT WITH FORMS, STRUCTURES, MATERIALS, MEDIA, AND ART-MAKING APPROACHES.

ART CONCEPTS:

NATURAL FOUND OBJECTS (STICKS, LEAVES, GRASS) CAN BE USED AS ART MATERIALS.

WE CAN USE ALL OF OUR SENSES IN THE ARTISTIC PROCESS AND TO EXPLORE THE WONDERS OF NATURE FOR DEEPER ENJOYMENT AND UNDERSTANDING.

WE CAN MAKE ART ABOUT ANIMALS, PLANTS AND OTHER SUBJECTS FROM NATURE.

ARTISTS WORK TOGETHER AND BY THEMSELVES.



NATIONAL STANDARDS (IN THE FORM OF "I CAN" STATEMENTS)

Creating

I can explore and play with art materials VA:Cr1.1.K

I can work together to solve a problem VA.Cr.1.2.K

I can improve my artmaking skills VA.Cr.2.1.K

I can be safe when using art supplies VA.Cr2.2.K

I can make art by looking at the world around me VA.Cr2.3.K

I can tell you how I am going to make my artwork. VA.Cr2.1.K

Presenting

I can find things that are the same when looking at art. VA.Pr.4.1.K

Responding

I can tell you what the artwork means to me VA.Re7.2.K

I can describe what the artwork is about. VA.Re8.1.K

I can tell you my favorite artwork and why I picked it. VA Re9.1.K

Connecting

I can explain different reasons for making art. VA.Cn.11.1.K

FOUR UNITS IN FOUR QUARTERS

Unit 1: A Sense of Wonderment (fall)

Unit 2: Feeling Sleepy - Hibernation
(winter)

Unit 3: Rain, Sleet, and Sometimes
Snow (spring)

Unit 4: Butterflies and Rain Gardens
(summer)

A Year of Art for a Kindergartner



UNIT 1: A SENSE OF WONDERMENT

Playing with Cob

Seeing in Color

Touching Nature

Smells in Nature

Sounds of Nature



MAKING AND PLAYING WITH COB (EARTHEN CLAY)

Lesson:

Students shape cob (combination of *(straw, sand, clay, soil and water)*) into animals and embellish with sticks, rocks and shells.

Play Component:

Students make table top cob with hands by mixing dry ingredients on a small plastic tarp. Students pretend to say goodnight and then good morning when they cover and uncover the cob materials.



SEEING IN COLOR: LESSON 1 *MOUSE PAINT*

Lesson:

Introduction to the primary colors and basic experiential color mixing.

Play:

Make a mouse sculpture out of cardboard tubes. In collaborative groups, students use their mice to dance in puddles of paint of the primary colors.



SEEING IN COLOR: LESSON 2 *BLUE MUSTANGS*

Lesson:

Make new colors from primary colors while learning about artists Eric Carle and Franz Marc. Draw side view of horse.

Play Component:

Teacher animates the wooden horse model and students learn how a horse runs, eats and sleeps.

Nature Component:

Students explore the horse's natural form and glue straw on the land.



TOUCHING NATURE: WEAVING

Lesson:

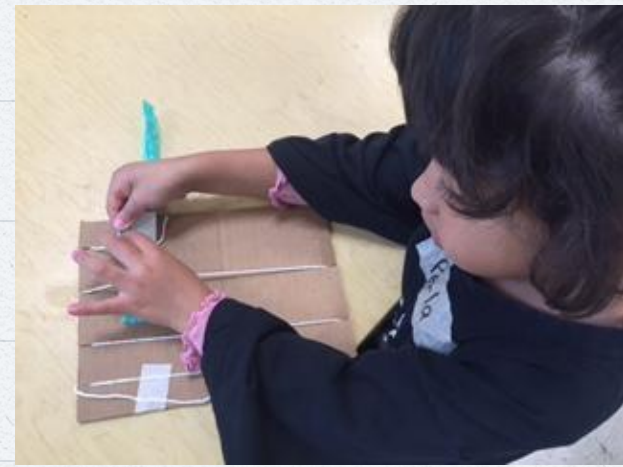
Students learn how to weave informally on a simple loom with natural and man-made materials.

Play Component:

Large group weaving activity using gross motor skills and social skills.

Connected Learning:

Students paint the unwoven spaces on the loom with primary colors.



TOUCHING NATURE: LEAF FRIENDS, PART 1

Lesson:

Make leaf persons with real leaves paired with the book *Leaf Man* by Lois Ehlert.

Play Component:

The wind blows a pile of leaves onto their trays.
“Leaf Man’s got to go where the wind blows!”

Nature Component:

Students use REAL leaves to arrange parts of a person with leaves.

Connected learning:

Students apply primary colors of paint with a sponge on leaves and then make a print.



PART 2: RAKING UP LEAF MAN

Lesson: Students cut out Leaf Persons and make leaves out of paper. Students make child-size art rakes that work.

Play Component: Students use gross motor skills to rake up their leaves and Leaf Man!

Nature Component: Art Teacher uses an adult size rake to rake up REAL leaves that are dried up.

Connected learning: Students learn front and back, cutting fringe, bending ends with pincer movements.

Assessment: Art teacher makes observational notes or video recordings of the verbalizations and actions of the students raking their leaf persons.



SMELLS IN NATURE: PUMPKIN PATCH

Lesson: Students discover how to transform a flat 2D piece of paper into a three-dimensional sculpture!

Nature Component: Students add REAL pumpkin and cinnamon to their paint.

Connected learning: Students continue to learn how to mix two primary colors to create a new color.

Assessment: Students can identify the smell of pumpkin and cinnamon. Students can describe how they made their pumpkin to a family member.





Introduction and Motivation



Demonstration



Active engagement

Responding

Playing/Dramatizations

Making Connections /Reasoning

Responsibility of Materials and Tools

TOUCHING NATURE: *ROOM ON THE BROOM*

Lesson:

Students make a miniature broom with natural materials and add characters.

Play Component: Students dramatize the characters in the story using their art as a play prop.

Nature Component: Students form a broom with natural materials of prairie grasses.

Connected learning: Students use the same technique of cutting fringe like the one used for the rake. Students draw side view again but this time of a person (connected to blue horse project).

