Cumulative Project: Elements of Design Slideshow

Teacher Guide: Grade 4

Overview

After completing the course on the Elements of Design, including videos, challenges and check ins, students will complete this cumulative project to reflect on the Elements of Design and their artwork as a whole. Students will create a slideshow of their best photographs, including photos for each Element of Design and their answers to reflection questions. The intent of this cumulative project is for it to be marked and go towards the students' visual art grade.

Teachers are welcome to modify this project based on what works best for their class.

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Curriculum Connections

This project addresses the fundamental concepts of the grade 4 visual arts curriculum by asking students to demonstrate their understanding of all of the Elements of Design. Students will also use the critical analysis process to analyze, discuss, and interpret their own work.

Visual Arts:

D1.2 demonstrate an understanding of composition

D1.3 use Elements of Design in art works to communicate ideas, messages, and understandings

D2.4 identify and document their strengths, their interests, and areas for improvement as creators and viewers of art

Project Outline

- **Co-construct success criteria with students**
  - Discuss what students have learned from the online lessons and what they think makes a good photograph.
  - Show students the example slideshow and have a discussion about what makes a good presentation, things they like, and what they would change.
  - As a group, develop expectations for students' slideshows. Examples may include:

- - Quality of photos: focused, good composition, demonstrate the Elements of Design
    - Slideshow design: size of photos on slides, layout of slides, background, text size and location
    - Answers to reflection prompts: what makes a thoughtful answer, based on feedback from check ins completed in the past.
  - Use this discussion to inform the development of a marking rubric (example provided below)
- **Each student creates their own slideshow of their best photos with at least 1 photo for each Element of Design** (4 maximum per element), as well as their **answers to 3 reflection prompts.**
  - Students can use Google Slides or another preferred program to create their slideshow
  - In-depth instructions for students provided in separate document
- **Students present their slideshow to the class** (optional)
- **Class discussion** (optional)
  - Students discuss as a group what they have learned, and how they will apply this learning to future work
  - Potential discussion questions:
    - Did you see any common themes in the photos students in the class took? For example: did students take photos of similar subjects or use similar techniques?
    - From watching other students' slideshows, what do you notice first when you look at works of art?
    - What do you consider when you give yourself time to think before deciding whether you like a piece of artwork?

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Reflection Questions

Students will write their answers to these reflection questions on one slide at the end of their slideshow.

1. What composition techniques did you use to take your photographs? Refer to your photos in the slideshow to give examples (example: SCUFI, Rule of Thirds, changing your perspective)
2. Which Element of Design is your favourite? Explain why.
3. How has taking pictures changed the way you see or experience nature?

Additional Resources

- Student instructions (separate document)
- Example slideshow (separate document)
- Sample rubric (below)

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Sample Rubric

Adjust rubric after co-constructing success criteria with students

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Knowledge and Understanding				
Identifies Elements of Design in photographs	Demonstrates limited understanding of the Elements of Design	Demonstrates some understanding of the Elements of Design	Demonstrates considerable understanding of the Elements of Design	Demonstrates a thorough understanding of the Elements of Design
Identifies photography techniques used in composing and taking their photographs	Difficulty identifying photography techniques used	Some success identifying photography techniques used	Considerable success identifying photography techniques used	A high degree of effectiveness in identifying photography techniques used
Communication/Reflection				
Expresses and organizes ideas and understanding of photography concepts	Expresses and organizes ideas and understanding of Elements of Design and photography concepts in the reflection with limited effectiveness	Expresses and organizes ideas and understanding of Elements of Design and photography concepts in the reflection with some effectiveness	Clearly expresses and organizes ideas and understanding of Elements of Design and photography concepts in the reflection	Expresses and organizes ideas and understanding of Elements of Design and photography concepts in the reflection with a high degree of effectiveness
Application				
Applies knowledge and skills to take their photographs	The photographs lack consideration of incorporating the Elements of Design and photography techniques	The photographs somewhat demonstrate thought taken to incorporate the Elements of Design and photography techniques	The photographs clearly demonstrate thought taken to incorporate the Elements of Design and photography techniques	The photographs expertly demonstrate thought taken to incorporate the Elements of Design and photography techniques

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