



Living River of Words - Drawing and Painting Grades 3-12

Description:

Students work with an artist during the field trip to get firsthand inspiration for their art projects. In the classroom, students learn principles of basic design such as color, shape, and line, as a means to illustrate their experiences and demonstrate learning. Students create original art pieces using a selection of painting and/or drawing media and are encouraged to submit their work to the *Living River of Words: Youth Poetry and Art Contest*.

Duration: Field Trip – session rotation 30-45 minutes **and**
Classroom - 3 classes x 1 hour each

Objectives:

- Experience a wetland or riparian habitat.
- Observe and make connections about the importance of water for plants, animals, humans, and the whole ecosystem.
- Use the field trip experience to generate artistic ideas for their visual art work.
- Bring to the classroom their personal experience with the natural habitat to interpret and present their artwork.
- Synthesize and interpret this experience to make art.

Vocabulary

Riparian, aquatic, habitat, aquifer, condensation, evaporation, lake, ocean, pond, precipitation, ridge, river, spring, stream, valley, water body, watershed, water cycle, groundwater.

Materials:

Living River of Words booklet
Plants and animals photos
Clipboards
Watercolor paper
White paper
Watercolor pencils
Watercolors

Pencils
Pencil sharpeners
Erasers
Plastic cups
Paper towels
Oil pastels
White board & markers

Description of Activity

1. The first Drawing and Painting class takes place at the Santa Cruz River, Sweetwater Wetlands, or Agua Caliente Park.
2. Students along with the instructor go for a short walk along the riparian habitat that are visiting. Students make observations and inquiries about the plants and animals that live there. The instructor guides the students to an understanding of the connections between habitat, water, animals, plants, and people.
3. Students work quietly on their sketches/drawings and make observations to use later in the classroom.
4. Students work with the art instructor back in the classroom to finalize their submissions for the *Living River of Words: Poetry and Art Contest*.

Linked to Arizona Arts Standards:

Standard 1- Creating: Conceiving and developing artistic ideas and work

Standard 2 - Connecting: Relating artistic ideas and work with personal meaning and context.

Anchor Standards #1 - # 3 and Anchor Standards #10 - #11