

## Depicting Nature with Images and Words

### Date

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Grade Level Grade 3

### I. Big Idea Depicting Nature with Images and Words

**A. Concept Statement/Key Concept** Students will make animal prints on tissue paper collaged backgrounds. They will also write a poem about the animal they depicted using styles taught to them in class.

**B. Essential Questions** What is a collage? What is a habitat?

**II. Objectives / Expected Learner Outcomes** After a demonstration on how to create a tissue paper message on paper the student will be able to create their own tissue-paper collage.

### III. Focused Standards of Education

1. **Content Standard:** Understanding and applying media, techniques, and processes

**Achievement Standard:** Students c. use different media, techniques, and processes to communicate ideas, experiences, and stories.

3.5 The student will develop ideas inspired by a variety of sources, including print, nonprint, and contemporary media, for incorporation into works of art.

3.9 The student will identify and use foreground, middle ground, and background in two-dimensional works of art.

(English SOL for Grade 3)

2.8 a) The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts.

c) Ask and answer questions about what is read.

e) Describe characters, setting, and important events in fiction and poetry.

3.5 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fictional text and poetry.

a) Set a purpose for reading.

b) Make connections between previous experiences and reading selections.

k) Use reading strategies to monitor comprehension throughout the reading process.

m) Read with fluency and accuracy.

### IV. Lesson Cycle

**Warm Up Activity:** Read a selection of poems from Eric Carle's *Animals, Animals*. Ask students what they thought about the poem - was it humorous? Descriptive? Accurate?

**Focus:** Students will complete their tissue-paper collage surface for their animal prints.

**Transition Plan:** Ask students if they know how Eric Carle makes his illustrations.

**Instructional Input:** Explain to students that Eric Carle uses textured paper, sometimes tissue paper, and cuts out shapes to create his animals and characters in his stories. We will be using similar materials, but in a different way. We will be making a collaged background of tissue paper and making a print of the animal on top of that ground with colored paint. We will then write a poem to accompany our images, the styles of which will be discussed in a later class. Demonstrate how to make a tissue paper collage with Mod Podge and paper. Emphasize that it is important for the students to make a background that will work with the animal they are thinking of; they do not have to know specifically which animal they want to print yet, but if they are thinking an aquatic animal or forest animal the background color should be adjusted accordingly.

**Transition Plan:** Review with students how much Mod Podge goes on a piece of tissue paper as they make their collage.

**Guided Practice:** Ask students such questions as, "Now class, if I wanted to make a print of a clownfish, what colors would I use for my background? How about for an eagle?"

**Transition Plan:** Dismiss students to their tables.

**Independent Practice:** Students will use Mod Podge adhesive and tissue paper to create a background for their animal prints.

**Transition Plan:** Have students clean their brushes at the sink as they finish.

**Closure:** Review with students how to create the tissue paper collage and get them excited for the next step in the process: creating their “block” for printing their animal.

#### V. Materials/Resources/Relevant Vocabulary

Collage - A picture or design created by adhering such basically flat elements as newspaper, wallpaper, printed text and illustrations, photographs, cloth, string, etc., to a flat surface.

Card stock paper, Mod Podge adhesive, paint brushes, tissue paper.

#### VIII. Teacher Reflection

#### IX. Suggested Supplemental Activities

If students finish their collages early, they can start sketching out their animals on scratch paper. The next class students will be drawing their animals on 5” x 7” pieces of paper, and if they finish these they will begin transferring them to styrofoam pieces of the same size for printing. The final class students will cut out the animal shapes from the styrofoam and use ink and brayers to print their animals to their tissue paper collage backgrounds. If there is enough time, students can then write a poem about their animal, either free form, limerick, or haiku.

