

Title

Woyaksape for Wokiksuya

**Grade Level**

3rd Grade Art Class

Theme

Supporting the Riders of the “Dakota 38” Wokiksuya Memorial Ride

Duration

2 class periods

Goals

Students will create supportive gifts of art to offer to the riders as they travel by horse between Crow Creek and Mankato. Students will be able to symbolically participate in the Wokiksuya.

Objectives

1. Students will be able to use their choice of art materials to create an image of a horse.
2. Students will be able to use their own ideas and symbols to create messages of encouragement and appreciation for individual riders.
3. Students will be able to use art to express an understanding of the general history (we will not explore the specific event at Mankato due to the age of the students) behind the Memorial Ride as well as their own response to the Riders.

Standards for Elementary Visual Art Grade 3

S1: Understand and apply a variety of media, techniques, and processes.

S3: Create art which explores a range of subject matter, symbols and ideas.

S4: Understand the visual arts in relation to history, cultures and their world today.

Cultural Concept

Dakota history – the process of remembering, honoring, forgiving and moving forward are vital to the health and well-being of the Dakota people.

Cultural Background

Since 2008, the annual Dakota 38 Wokiksuya (Memorial Ride) has taken place the second week in December, beginning at Lower Brule, SD. For 16 days the horseback riders pass through South Dakota and Minnesota. The final stop on the 330 mile journey is Mankato, Minnesota at

Land of Memories Park. They arrive in time for December 26th, the day when the hanging of 38 Dakota tribal members took place in 1862. This led to the exodus of Santee's from Minnesota into the Great Plains and Canada. http://santeesioux.com/memorial_ride_2013.html The purpose of the ride is to remember and commemorate the men who were killed; as well as to support their families and embrace the Dakota culture.

Student Activities

1. Students will be introduced to the history of the Dakota history, with an emphasis on the Wokiksuya Memorial Ride.
2. Students will be introduced to the symbolism of the horse:
 - a. The two front legs represent the directions North and West
 - b. The two back legs represent the directions South and East
 - c. The tail represents the direction below
 - d. The head represents the direction above
 - e. The horse's rider represents the center
3. Students will draw the outline of a horse's body
4. Students will decorate the horse with symbols and colors to honor and encourage individual riders. This could include messages of appreciation to the rider.

Teacher Activity

The teacher will mail all of the horse art projects and send them in US mail to the capitol building in Crow Creek, SD.

Resources

1. Background info on Dakota history, the Mankato mass hanging, and the Wokiksuya Memorial Ride.
2. White drawing paper 6x9"
3. Students' choice of art materials to create drawing, symbols, messages

Assessment

Visual assessment of student work along with an opportunity for students to verbally share their art. Students will also write a reflection of why they created this art and what they hope the art will offer to the person who receives it.

References:

http://santeesioux.com/fsst_historyculture.html

Beloved Child by Diane Wilson

Excerpts from the film *Dakota 38*

1934: A New Deal for Artists by Anne Prentice Wagner

Prezi presentation of traditional Dakota artworks

Developer

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