South Dakota Artists Curriculum Unit

Dick Edie
“Up, Up, and Away”

Provided by the South Dakota Art Museum
Brookings, South Dakota
South Dakota Artists Curriculum Unit

**Unit of Study:** Dick Edie, potter

**Title of Lesson Plan:** Up, Up, and Away

**Grade Level:** 3 – 5
Fine Arts:

Visual Arts Standard One 3-4:
Students will describe how visual arts tell stories, express moods, or convey ideas.

Visual Arts Standard One 5-8:
Students will express personal ideas, experiences, or emotions through various media, processes, and techniques.

Visual Arts Standard Two 3-4:
Students will understand selected techniques which give artwork detail.

Visual Arts Standard Two 5-8:
Students will describe the various techniques which give artwork definition and detail.
Assessment Strategies

- Class discussion
- Observation using VTS
- Creation of an art project following guidelines in a rubric
Learning Objectives

- Students will learn about South Dakota artist Dick Edie.
- Students will evaluate the art piece using VTS techniques.
- Students will create an art project that portrays something growing out of the earth.
Time Required

- One class period of 40 – 50 minutes

Materials/Technology Needed

- Image of SD artist Dick Edie’s ceramic piece featured on the Augustana College Press Release (website listed below)
- Cardboard pieces or empty paper towel rolls
- Markers, crayons, colored pencils, etc.
- Scissors
South Dakota artist Dick Edie is known for his ceramic works. According to the Fall 2005 South Dakota Art Museum Newsletter, “Dick Edie finds pleasure in surprises created in working with ceramics; in never knowing just how the product will appear when coming out of the kiln. This surprise can be wonderful or devastating. . .” (5).
Lesson Description

• Show students the image of Dick Edie’s ceramic piece featured on the Augustana College Press Release (website listed below).

• Ask students to use VTS observations to comment on this piece. Sample questions might include:
  • What do you see?
  • What is the significance of the design in the piece?
  • What does this remind you of?

• Discuss as a class. Explain to students that according to the March 30, 2007 Augustana College News, artist Dick Edie’s ceramic sculptures, trilons, “. . .strive to transcend the earth from which they sprang.”
Lesson Description continued

- Have students think about things that grow from the earth.

- Have students reexamine the ceramic piece again. Have students explain what they notice about the colors and shapes used. They will notice that the shapes are not traditional figures but abstractions of something.

- Have students create their own abstract representation of something growing from the earth on a piece of cardboard that will be vertically displayed, or on a paper towel roll.

- Remind students to think about how color helps to portray something rising from the ground.
Enrichment

- Have students create a replica trilon out of clay. They could partner with a high school ceramics class or maybe someone in the community to help students learn aspects of working with ceramics.
Bibliography/Resources


Dick Edie Presentation to Students
Dick Edie

- Born August 28, 1924
- Began teaching art classes at South Dakota State University in 1956
- Artwork – Ceramics
- Ceramics are both functional and non-functional
  - Examples of Functional ceramics– traditional bowls & covered jars
- Has built own kilns to fire his pottery pieces
Bibliography

- Edie Ceramic Collection at the South Dakota Art Museum
  - Dick Edie Sculpture: “a Spiralized”

- South Dakota Art Museum Collection
  - Richard Edie

*For more information about Dick Edie, contact the South Dakota Art Museum*
Ceramic piece featured on the Augustana College Press Release

Another Example of Dick Edie’s Artwork
a Spiralized

Image Courtesy of the South Dakota Art Museum