South Dakota Artists Curriculum Unit

L. Lova Jones
“Let it Snow!”

Provided by the South Dakota Art Museum
Brookings, South Dakota
Unit of Study: L. Lova Jones, painter

Title of Lesson Plan: Let it Snow!

Grade Level: 3 – 5
South Dakota Content Standards

Fine Arts:

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

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.
South Dakota Content Standards

Science:
4.E.1.2 Students are able to describe how weather conditions and phenomena occur and can be predicted.

Geography:
3.G.1.1 Students are able to identify and use map components.
5.G.2.1 Students are able to describe how climate and geography influenced the way of life of Native American tribes and the movement and activities of settlers.
Assessment Strategies

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

- Students will learn about South Dakota artist Lova Jones.
- Students will evaluate the painting using VTS techniques.
- Students will explain how wind is portrayed in this painting.
- Students will create a picture depicting snow and wind.
Time Required

- One class period of 45 minutes

Materials/Technology Needed

- Image of Lova Jones painting: “Falling Snow”
- Drawing paper
- Cotton balls
- Glue
- Crayons, markers, colored pencils, etc.
Background Information

- L. Lova Jones is best known for her portraits and landscapes. She lived in the first frame house built in Brandon Township (11 miles northeast of Sioux Falls) that was built around 1875.
Lesson Description

- Show students the Lova Jones painting: “Falling Snow”.

- Explain to students that as they look at this painting, the top of the painting would be north.

- Have students use VTS observation to answer sample questions like:
  - What do you see?
  - What is going on?
  - What season is this? How do you know? (push for observations besides the snow)
  - What do you notice about the snow?
  - What impact is the wind having on the falling snow?
Lesson Description continued

- Discuss as a class. Most students will be able to relate to this picture of falling snow. You can discuss that the wind must be blowing from the east or northeast because of the direction of the paint strokes depicting snow.
  - You could ask students how strong they think the wind might be based on how the snow is shown. (It must not be very strong because the angle of the snow falling is not horizontal.)

- Pass out drawing paper to each student. Have students create a picture of the outdoors (without snow at this time). It could feature a house, a school, a generic landscape of grasslands, tree strips, etc. Remind students that this image should be in the middle of winter (so no green grass).
Lesson Description continued

- After students have completed their drawing, tell students that they need to use cotton on their picture to show depth of the snow, wind as an influence, etc. (You set the parameters - i.e. snow drifts, strong wind blowing from the west, etc.)
- Remind students that they need to pull the cotton apart so that you can still see most of the picture underneath.
Enrichment

- Have younger students create their own snowflakes out of paper.

- For older students, they could research how water content affects the type of snow that falls (light snow that blows easily vs. heavy, slushy snow). Possibly have a meteorologist from the National Weather Service or from a local TV network come and speak to the class about the differences in snow.
Bibliography/Resources

- South Dakota Painting Collection at the South Dakota Art Museum
  - L. Lova Jones painting: “Falling Snow”

- South Dakota Art Museum Collection
  - L. Lova Jones
L. Lova Jones Presentation to Students
L. Lova Jones

Image Courtesy of the South Dakota Art Museum
L. Lova Jones

- 1874 – 1951

- Attended the Art Institute of Chicago

- Taught and painted art in Chicago and California

- Painted portraits and scenery

- Painted portraits of 3 notable South Dakotans
  - Senator R. F. Pettigrew
  - Governor Frank M. Byrne, 1913 – 1917
  - L. T. Dunning, pioneer druggist and land developer of Sioux Falls, SD
Bibliography

- South Dakota Art Museum Collection
  - L. Lova Jones

*For more information about L. Lova Jones, contact the South Dakota Art Museum*
Falling Snow

Image Courtesy of the South Dakota Art Museum
Another Example of L. Lova Jones’ Artwork
Anthill

Image Courtesy of the South Dakota Art Museum