UNIT OF STUDY: Robert Penn, painter

TITLE OF LESSON PLAN: Painting Scavenger Hunt

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.
• Visual Arts Standard Three 3-4 – Students will describe how selected works of art have recorded and preserved history.

U.S. History:
• 3.US.2.2 Students are able to identify a community’s culture and history.
• 5.US.1.1 Students are able to differentiate the lifestyles of various Native American tribes.

ASSESSMENT STRATEGIES:
• Class discussion
• Observation using VTS
• Identification of images

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:
• Students will learn about South Dakota artist Robert Penn.
• Students will evaluate the art piece using VTS techniques.
• Students will identify images found within Robert Penn’s painting “Sitting Bull’s Account”.

TIME REQUIRED:
• One class period of 30 – 45 minutes

MATERIALS/TECHNOLOGY NEEDED:
• Image of Robert Penn’s painting: “Sitting Bull’s Account”
• Paper
• Pen/pencil
BACKGROUND INFORMATION:
Robert Penn is a South Dakota artist who is half Sioux and half Omaha. While attending USD, he was a work-study assistant and protégé of the legendary Sioux artist Oscar Howe.

LESSON DESCRIPTION:
Show students the painting by Robert Penn titled, “Sitting Bull’s Account”. Have students use VTS observation to write down all of the images that they identify within this one painting.

There are several. Some include:
- buffalo
- horse (and why is it blue?)
- soldier
- Native American(s)
- sword
- shield
- bird

Have students share what they located within a small group and then with the entire class.

ENRICHMENT:
Have students research Sitting Bull’s significance to the Lakota Sioux culture.

BIBLIOGRAPHY/RESOURCES:
Native American Print Collection at the South Dakota Art Museum
  Robert Penn print: “Sitting Bull’s Account”