SOUTH DAKOTA ARTISTS CURRICULUM UNIT
Provided by the South Dakota Art Museum
Brookings, South Dakota

UNIT OF STUDY: Roger Broer, printmaker/painter

TITLE OF LESSON PLAN: As the Crow Flies

GRADE LEVEL: 3-5

SOUTH DAKOTA CONTENT STANDARDS:
U.S. History:
• 3.US.2.2 Students are able to identify a community’s culture and history.
• 4.US.1.1 Students are able to explain factors affecting the growth and expansion of South Dakota.
• 4.US.1.2 Students are able to identify basic environmental, economic, cultural, and population issues of concern to South Dakota.

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.

Reading:
• 3.R.4.1 Students can respond to ideas and attitudes expressed in multicultural and historical texts by making connections.
• 4.R.4.1 Students can identify and distinguish the characteristics of multicultural texts, historical texts, and time period texts.
• 5.R.4.1 Students can examine and compare texts from various cultures, time periods, and geographical locations.

Listening, Viewing, & Speaking:
• 3.LVS.1.2 Students can recall the content of a visual and auditory presentation.
• 4.LVS.1.1 Students can identify and explain the purpose of the presentation through listening and viewing.
• 4.LVS.1.2 Students can record and explain information while listening and viewing.
• 5.LVS.1.1 Students can identify the purpose and content of a presentation through listening and viewing.
• 5.LVS.1.2 Students can explain the purpose and content of the presentation.
ASSESSMENT STRATEGIES:
- Class discussion
- Observation using VTS
- Evaluation of student writing using 6+1 Writing Traits as a guide

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:
- Students will learn about South Dakota artist Roger Broer.
- Students will evaluate the painting using VTS techniques.
- Students will listen to the legend(s) about the crow in Native American culture.
- Students will differentiate two Native American legends about the crow.
- Students will write a reaction to the legend in their journals.

TIME REQUIRED:
- One class period of 30 - 40 minutes

MATERIALS/TECHNOLOGY NEEDED:
- Images of Roger Broer’s paintings: “Spotted Crow Pray With Us”, “Can’t Get ‘Em Out of My Mind”, and “Seven Brown Stones”
- Copy of the book The Raven: Soaring Through History, Legend, & Lore
- Journal
- Pen/pencil

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:
Roger Broer is a South Dakota artist who is a member of the Oglala Lakota Nation. He has won many awards and is a nationally recognized Native American artist.


You would not have to read the entire book to the class; however, you could read one or two of the Native American legends to the class to illustrate the significance of the bird on their culture.

LESSON DESCRIPTION:
- Show students one of the paintings by Roger Broer: “Spotted Crow Pray With Us”, “Can’t Get ‘Em Out of My Mind”, or “Seven Brown Stones”.
- Have students describe the painting using VTS observations. Discuss as a class.
- Explain to student that the crow is a significant figure in Native American cultures.
- Share with students one or two of the legends found in the book, The Raven: Soaring Through History, Legend, & Lore.
- Have students write in their journals how the two legends about the crow compare to one another.
- Then have students write a reaction to one of the legends describing the legend, their feelings about the legend, etc.
ENRICHMENT:
Have students research one of the Native American symbols in the painting, “Seven Brown Stones” by Roger Broer. Symbols include: the crow, elk and the seven stones.

BIBLIOGRAPHY/RESOURCES:
• South Dakota Art Museum Collection
  • Roger Broer

• Spotted Crow Pray With Us”. Image courtesy of Roger Broer.

• “Can’t Get ‘Em Out of My Mind”. Roger Broer. 2009

• “Seven Brown Stones”. Roger Broer. 2009