Classy Classifying of Artsy Animals   "Create a Critter"   5th Grade
Project *1 of 2*
Approx. Duration of Project: 45 - 60 minutes

Project Description	Learning Targets
In this project, students will explore animal attributes by becoming inventive and creating a one-of-a-kind critter using the art technique of "exquisite corpse". The synthesis of knowledge of animal classification in this visual way is both engaging and memorable. Students will write a description of their critter detailing the characteristics of each animal group they integrated into their design. Students will name their animal and present their animal to the class via a "Wanted" poster.	"I Can…": ● Create a critter that integrates three different animal parts ● Create an original name for my critter based upon the attributes ● Create a "Wanted" poster for my unique critter that describes its animal characteristics

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

• How can I apply my knowledge of animal classification to create a new critter using the "exquisite corpse" technique?

STANDARDS

Curriculum Standards	Arts Standards
• S5L1. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to group organisms using scientific classification procedures. a. Develop a model that illustrates how animals are sorted into groups (vertebrate and invertebrate) and how vertebrates are sorted into groups (fish, amphibian, reptile, bird, and mammal) using data from multiple sources. **ELACC5W3:** Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences. **ELACC5W4:** Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in Standards 1–3 above.)	• VA5MC.1 Engages in the creative process to generate and visualize ideas. • VA5PR.1 Creates artworks based on personal experience and selected themes. • VA5PR.2 Understands and applies media, techniques, and processes of two-dimensional art processes (drawing, painting, printmaking, mixed-media) using tools and materials in a safe and appropriate manner to develop skills. • Creates 3-D artwork that demonstrates a design concept: open or closed form, proportion, balance, color scheme, and movement.

ArtsNow
Teaching and Learning Across the Curriculum

Classy Classifying of Artsy Animals　　　"Create a Critter"　　　　5th Grade
Project *1 of 2*
Approx. Duration of Project: 45 - 60 minutes

KEY VOCABULARY

Content Vocabulary	Arts Vocabulary
- Vertebrate - Invertebrate - Mammal - Amphibian - Fish - Bird - Reptile - Insect - Classify - Group - Characteristics - Attribute - Similarities - Differences - Organism - Backbone - Warm-blooded - Cold-blooded - Reproduce	- Surrealism: a 20th-century avant-garde movement in art and literature that sought to release the creative potential of the unconscious mind, for example by the irrational juxtaposition of images - Andre Breton: a Surrealist artist - Exquisite Corpse: a method by which a collection of words or images is collectively assembled (much like a collage) - Line: curves or marks that span a distance between two points - Texture: the feel, appearance, or consistency of a surface - Shape: the form of an object or its external boundary, outline, or external surface, as opposed to other properties such as color, texture or material composition - Space: any area that an artist provides for a particular purpose, this includes the background, foreground and middleground, and the distances or around, between, and within things - Subject Matter: the topic dealt with or the subject represented in a work of art

TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION

- https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/chatterpix-kids-by-duck-duck-moose/id734046126?mt=8

Students could use ChatterKids to make their critters come to life and share their descriptions and characteristics that they wrote.

ASSESSMENTS

Formative	Summative
- Class discussion - Teacher should check in with small groups	Project Rubric for the "Wanted Poster"

ArtsNow®
Teaching and Learning Across the Curriculum

Classy Classifying of Artsy Animals   "Create a Critter"   5th Grade
Project *1 of 2*
Approx. Duration of Project: 45 - 60 minutes

as they work on their critter ● Questioning	

MATERIALS

- Drawing paper
- Paper and pencil
- Textured plates
- Art sticks
- Black extra fine Sharpie markers
- Examples of exquisite corpse drawings

Activating Strategy (5- 10 min)

- Show examples of exquisite corpse drawings (SEE DOWNLOADS)
- Review characteristics/attributes of each vertebrate subgroup (bird, fish, mammal, amphibian, reptile)
- Review procedures of working with groups and time constraints for the activity

Main Activity

PART I

- Students will fold paper so that there are three vertical sections.
- Each student will roll a die. They will draw the body part according to the number they roll:
- 1= bird 2 = fish 3 = mammal 4 = amphibian 5 = reptile 6 = invertebrate
- After the first roll, student will draw the head of an example of that sub group. (e.g, if the teacher names mammal, the student could draw the head of a dog) on the top section.
- After a specified amount of time, the student will fold the paper so that only the middle section is showing and pass to the next student. The students will again roll the die, and draw the torso of an animal that represents that sub group.
- After a specified amount of time, the student will fold the paper so that only the bottom section is showing and pass to the next student. The students will again roll the die and draw the bottom (feet, tail) of an animal that represents that sub group.
- The last student in the group will open the paper to reveal the three sections.

PART 2

- The student will take the created critter and develop a name for the critter using all three of the animals in the picture.
- The student can now outline with Sharpies if desired, add color and an environmental background for the critter.
- Each section of the critter should be finished using a different texture plate and art sticks (for example, the head could be one texture and one color, torso could be a different texture and color, etc.)

ArtsNow®
Teaching and Learning Across the Curriculum

Classy Classifying of Artsy Animals   "Create a Critter"   5th Grade
Project *1 of 2*
Approx. Duration of Project: 45 - 60 minutes

- This paper can then be turned into a "wanted poster". The student can write a description using some characteristics of all of the animal parts. (e.g. Be on the lookout for a missing "ligerdile" (lion, tiger, crocodile) that has escaped. It has fur, is warm blooded and might be near the eggs it laid. It was last seen…..)

Classroom Tips:
- The teacher might want to have the student monitor each other so that they do not draw the same animal on the paper, even if they draw the same group.
- Encourage students to consider placement and size of each body part; center each part; draw large enough to show texture and details, etc.
- The teacher should emphasize that while the drawing does not have to be realistic, it should include enough detail to show characteristics of the vertebrate group.

REFLECTION

Reflection Questions

- *From using the exquisite corpse technique, what did we learn about animal classification?*
- *How realistic was this; does this sort of cross-breeding happen in real ecosystems? Can we brainstorm some examples of this?*
- *What sort of adaptations could we envision these critters having? How would these help them survive in their ecosystem?*

DIFFERENTIATION

BELOW GRADE LEVEL: Students will be provided with different pictures of invertebrates and vertebrates cut up into 3 sections (The head, torso, and legs). They will create a creature by gluing down the parts of the pictures. Student will roll a dice. They will paste down the body parts according to the number they roll:
1= bird 2 = fish 3 = mammal 4 = amphibian 5 = reptile 6 = invertebrate

ABOVE GRADE LEVEL:

EL STUDENTS:
Writing Accommodations:
ELP Level 1-2: Label critter's characteristics directly on the poster using a word bank provided by the teacher. Picture and first language support should be used as needed for unknown vocabulary.
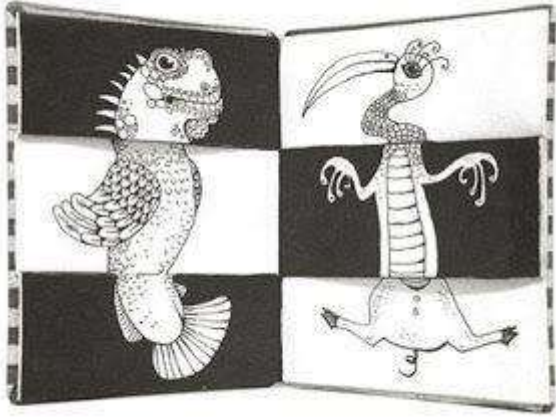ELP Level 3-4: Students may type their critter descriptions in OneNote using the "Dictate" feature. Students can then copy the description to their poster. (OneNote>Learning Tools Add-in>Dictate)
ELP Level 5-6 Write a longer description including how their critter's characteristics contribute to their ideal habitat.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Classy Classifying of Artsy Animals   "Create a Critter"   5th Grade
Project *1 of 2*
Approx. Duration of Project: 45 - 60 minutes

- http://www.lacma.org/sites/default/files/DrawingLessonPlans.pdf (first lesson plan on Surrealist Drawing Games)

artofvisualthinking.blogspot.com

- Ashley Brian is an author and illustrator who uses a lot of animals in his work. His stories may be good spring boards for student work.

APPENDIX

- Rubric for "Wanted" poster

CREDITS

U.S. Department of Education
Arts in Education--Model Development and Dissemination Grants Program
Cherokee County (GA) School District and ArtsNow, Inc.
Ideas contributed and edited by:
Sarah Weiss, Virginia Diederich, Abby Hernandez, Edited by Jessica Espinoza, Edited by Dr. Carla Cohen

ArtsNow®
Teaching and Learning Across the Curriculum