

Lesson Plan: Coil Pottery

Grade Level: 3-8

Subject: Social Studies/Art Techniques

Time: 120 Minutes (2- 60 min. sessions)

Standards:

0.1.3.5.1 Identify characteristics of visual artworks from a variety of cultures, including American Indian tribes

4.1.3.5.1 Describe the cultural and historical traditions of visual artworks including contributions of Minnesota American Indian tribes

6.1.3.5.1 Compare and contrast connections among works in visual artworks, their purposes and their cultural, historical, and social contexts, including contributions of Minnesota American Indian tribes

Objective: To create pottery using the coil technique used by indigenous tribes and to learn about cultural traditions of Minnesota American Indian tribes.

Assessment:

Rubric:

4- Standards are exceeded

3- Standards are met

2- Standards are partially met

1- Standards are not met

Materials: Air-Dry Clay (1.13 kg white per student), tooth picks, small plastic containers or sealing sandwich bags, paper towels

Procedure:

Day 1: Start by showing students the following “Grant Goltz: Rethinking Blackduck Pottery” video. <https://video.lptv.org/video/grant-goltz-rethinking-blackduck-pottery-rh1yix/>

Discussion Questions:

1. What is one thing you thought was important about this video? What different techniques did Grant use when creating his pottery? Have you ever played with clay before?

Day 2: Hand out all materials to each student.

Step 1

- Have students separate a small piece of clay about the size of an egg.
- Roll it into a ball
- Flatten it into a circle with your palm until it is as thick as your small finger.

Step 2

- Have students roll out the rest with their fingers spread out onto a hard surface. Roll hands back and forth until the thickness is thin and even throughout the whole coil.

Step 3

- Students will use the toothpick to score the base of the pot where the coil will be attached.

Step 4

-Using their fingers, students will dip their fingers into a cup of water and get the area that is scored wet to help the coil to attach to the base.

Step 5

-Place the coil on top of scored clay and gently coil around the outer edge of the base making sure that you continue to score and moisten the clay as you coil it around so the clay attaches to each layer.

Step 6

-Blend the coils together on the inside of the pot with one hand while supporting the outside of the pot with the other hand.

Step 7 (optional)

-With any additional clay, students can add design to the outside of the pot attaching it using the scoring and water.

Step 8

-When complete, allow the pot to dry for about one week. When it is dry it will be white and can be painted.

Follow-up Discussion:

How was creating coil pots similar to the pottery created in the video? How is it different? What are some challenges you had while you were creating your pot? Do you think indigenous people had similar challenges? What are some challenges that they would have encountered that you didn't because of the time period they lived in?

Additional Resources:

<https://prezi.com/p/embed/1aph5r9quswa/> id="iframe_container" frameborder="0" webkitallowfullscreen="" mozallowfullscreen="" allowfullscreen="" allow="autoplay; fullscreen" height="315" width="560"></iframe>

<https://artsandculture.google.com/entity/pottery/m064rk?date=-9750&categoryid=medium>