

Showing Symbolism with Puppetry



Language Arts & Visual Arts

Grade
7

Language Arts Common Core Standard(s) Grade 7

RL2 CCR Anchor Standard

Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.

Visual Arts (MD) Standard(s) Grade 7

2.1.a Identify the roles and functions of the visual arts in expressing ideas, events, and universal themes within and among cultural groups.



CONNECTED OBJECTIVES

Students learn about Chinese Puppetry in order to create Chinese dragon puppets that symbolize a key theme, character, or event in the plot of "Dragonwings."

MATERIALS & RESOURCES

- Cloth
- Sequence
- Construction Paper
- Glue Guns
- Sticks
- Puppetry Handout
- History of Chinese Puppetry PPT

KEY CONTENT VOCABULARY

- Imperial
- Dynasty
- **Symbol**
- **Theme**
- **Plot**
- **Character**

KEY ARTS VOCABULARY

- Marionette
- Pyingxi
- Glove Puppet

A S S E S S M E N T

Exit ticket: Artist Statement: How did your dragon symbolize characters, themes, or events from "Dragonwings."



L E S S O N S T E P S

Introduce and define puppets and puppetry. Provide background on Puppetry in China.

- Present examples and or video clips.

Identify key themes, events and characters in the story, *Dragonwings*.

- Discuss and determine what symbols could be used to communicate these ideas.

Students create the dragon puppets that will incorporate icons, colors, words that symbolize one of themes, events and characters.

- Instructions:
 - Cut out two identical dragon heads (A) and two identical tails(C) from construction paper in order to have mirror images. The size of heads/tails will be determined by the size of body strips.
 - Decorate opposite sides of your heads and tails by adding texture with layers of cut paper (see example B above). You may also use markers and colored pencils – to add detail)
 - With wrong sides facing, cut triangular strips from the pretty scrap paper and glue them to one of the crowns of the dragon's head and another lot to the end of the tail.
 - Create sticks by rolling paper like a straw and using tape to secure them.
 - Glue the sticks in the middle of the head and tail so that you have two handles to manipulate the puppet.

EXTENSIONS & OPTIONS

- Students create dialogue and perform a portion of the text using the puppets.

SOURCES & RESOURCES

Instructions for making a dragon puppet:
<http://www.incredibleart.org/files/dragon.htm>

G E T S M A R T T H R O U G H T H E A R T S

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