

Persuasive Essay: Aesthetics

THROUGHthe
Get Smarts

Language Arts & Visual Arts

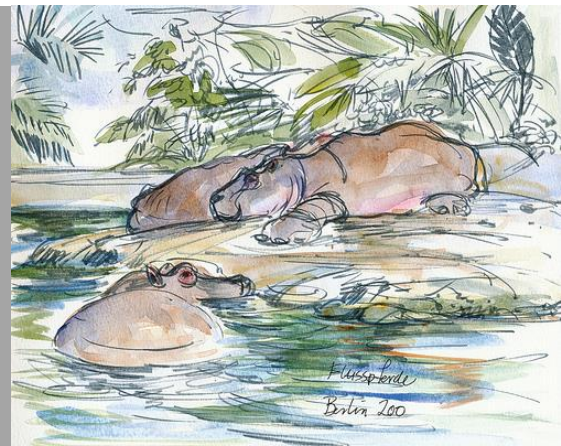
Grade
7

Language Arts Common Core Standard(s) Grade 7 W1 CCR Anchor Standard

Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

Visual Arts standard(s) Grade 7

Students will demonstrate the ability to make aesthetic judgments.



Artwork: Laura Murphy Frankstone

CONNECTED OBJECTIVES

Students analyze artwork in order to understand aesthetics. They analyze and evaluate a zoo habitat for aesthetics and write a persuasive essay on its aesthetics for the animal.

MATERIALS & RESOURCES

- Zoo Cam (Internet) or Actual Visit
- Internet resources/PowerPoint introducing Aesthetics.
- Writing Prompt

KEY CONTENT VOCABULARY

- Persuasion
- Persuasive Techniques

KEY ARTS VOCABULARY

- Definition of Aesthetics
- Elements of Aesthetics

A S S E S S M E N T

Persuasive essay that includes

- A clear claim
- Citation of supportive evidence
- A selection of aesthetic words selected from the word bank.



Artwork: Laura Murphy Frankstone

L E S S O N S T E P S

Introduce and define aesthetic(s)

- Aesthetic: pleasing to the senses, especially sight; art and beauty; perceptual or artistic judgment
- Additional definitions: perception – observe; intuition – a judgment reflex, listen to your gut feeling
- Aesthetics Bookmark – choose a concept word from word bank and create a bookmark with a graphic or visual and word cues (example of word bank words: color, shape, size, sensory appeal, aesthetics, scent, contrast, etc.)
- Select a work of art to describe and analyze for aesthetic appeal using an Artful Thinking routine such as *I See, I Think, I Wonder*.

Zoo Fieldtrip

- Students visit the zoo and choose a habitat to evaluate or log onto a zoo cam and observe a zoo habitat
- Students complete a habitat sketch and describe the habitat
- Students write a persuasive paper evaluating the aesthetics of the habitat they observed

EXTENSIONS & OPTIONS SOURCES & RESOURCES

- Students write an actual letter to a zoo official with their evaluation of the habitat.

- *The One and Only Ivan* by Katherine Applegate
<http://theoneandonlyivan.com/>
- Artful Thinking Routines:
<http://www.pzartfulthinking.org/routines.php>

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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S u p p o r t i n g D o c u m e n t s