

Lesson Plan For Eric Carle Collage

Woodruff Arts Center Conference – June 9, 2016

Kirby Meng - kmeng@bellsouth

- Grade level – K-5th
- Overview/Concepts – The student will learn about the art of collage (art made by pasting bits of paper, cloth or other material to a flat surface) and the art of artist/author Eric Carle. The students will create a work of art in the style of Carle using papers, which they paint themselves and a self-created pattern.
- Resources – Books and prints of work by Eric Carle, examples of collage, Treasury of Classic Stories for Children by Eric Carle
- Materials – 12 X 18 tag board, 12 X 18 colored paper, pencils, tempera paint, brushes, scissors, design scratching tools, cut from Styrofoam, Art Stix or Colored pencils.
- Common Core Standards:
 - CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.7
Use information gained from the illustrations and words in a print or digital text to demonstrate understanding of its characters, setting, or plot.
 - CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.2
Recount stories, including fables and folktales from diverse cultures, and determine their central message, lesson, or moral.
- GPS:
 - VA2MC.3 Selects and uses subject matter, symbols, and ideas to communicate meaning.
 - VA2PR.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.
- National Standards:
 - VA:Cr1.2.2 Make art or design with various materials and tools to explore personal interests, questions, and curiosity.
 - VA:Re8.1.2 Interpret art by identifying the mood suggested by a work of art and describing relevant subject matter and characteristics of form.
- Specific Talking Objective –The student will discuss the life and art of Eric Carle and identify the use of collage in his work. The student will recognize and describe the characteristics of the work of Eric Carle.
- Specific Production Objective – The student will create a collage using painted papers in the style of the artist Eric Carle, drawing inspiration from one of Carle’s illustrated fables.
- Assessment instrument – Teacher will assess student progress while moving around the room and help as needed. Student products will be assessed as a group upon completion through critique and reflection.
- Motivation – Discuss of the art and writings of Eric Carle. Most children are familiar with The Very Hungry Caterpillar and other books by Carle. Discuss the fact that Carle is author and illustrator. What is an illustrator? Eric Carle was born in 1929 in New York, but moved to Germany when he was very young. He went to school there, eventually going to art school in Germany. When he graduated, he decided to move back to New York and got a job as a graphic designer. He was asked one day to illustrate a children’s book and he did. After that, he decided that he would like to write and illustrate his own books for children. A few of the books written by Carle include: The Very Hungry Caterpillar, The Very Busy Spider, The Very Grouchy Ladybug, etc. They are very popular with young children. Eric Carle uses collage to create the pictures for all of his books; there are many ways to make a collage. He uses pieces of paper that he has painted. These are examples of painted papers like he might use. Have you ever created a collage? You may have done so in your classroom. A teacher may have asked you to cut

pictures out of magazines about a particular thing, maybe spring or fall or foods, etc. And you might have glued those all together on another piece of paper; that is a collage.

- Visualization – Now you are ready to start making your own collage. First we will paint our papers and then we will discuss how to make the collage. What colors do you think go well together? What colors of paint should you not mix? Why? We are going to paint a variety of colors of papers; you will be able to use all of the papers. We will share all of the pages we paint. You should have a chance to paint a couple of different color combinations.

- Procedures –

Demonstration: teacher should demonstrate painting technique using long strokes. Students do not need to paint all the way to the edge, but should get pretty close. Paint the whole page with one color and then go back with a second color placing dots of the color here and there on the paint. Use a Styrofoam tool to drag the colors together and create a texture on the page. Don't use large amounts of paint or the paper will not dry flat. Students may go back and add a third color in some cases using the same technique.

1. Day One – Discuss Eric Carle and show examples of his work. It may be possible to do the painting demonstration today.
2. Day Two - Paint papers.
3. Day Three - Paint papers
4. Day Four - Read a fable from Treasury of Classic Stories for Children. Before beginning, make children aware that they will be drawing one of the animals in the story for their collage. Teacher will demonstrate easy drawing techniques for each animal. Students will choose the animal they want to portray and draw it LARGE on a 12 X 18 piece of tag board.
5. Day Five - Discuss the way Carle made his pictures, what piece was put down first? What last? How did he show that one thing is in front of another? Show students how to cut the first/largest shape out of their animal. Once cut out, the students will choose the color of painted paper they want to use and trace the shape of their pattern piece. The colors of the animal do not have to be realistic. Be sure to remind them to trace near the edge so we don't waste paper. Students will glue the piece onto colored construction paper in the same position it was on their drawing and continue in the same manner until the animal is complete. Only cut one shape at a time.
6. Day 6&7 – Continue working on collage using painted papers until all parts of the animal have been cut and pasted. If time permits, add detail with art stix or colored pencils. Some background may also be added to the picture using cut paper.

- Closure/Review – Review the artist's name each day and review the idea of collage. What steps did we take to make a collage? What does an illustrator do? Which story did we read in your class? Which animals were involved in the story? What was the moral of the story?
- Display idea – Post work in the hall by class and include a sign that includes information about the story they worked with and the moral of that story

Eric Carle is still alive and writing and illustrating books. He has a museum about his work and picture books in Amherst, MA from which the pieces on display at the High Museum are on loan.