



## Poetic Petite Pastiche

The Mini Time Machine Museum of Miniatures Education Outreach

Lesson Plan for 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Graders

### Rationale:

Museums are an important part of our communities, striving to sustain a beautiful mixture between entertainment, preservation, research cultivation, and education. Because museums have access to wonderful resources, they can be used as supplemental teaching tools to engage learners beyond traditional walls and invite further exploration.

This lesson is aimed at using the miniature arts as a tool to discuss poetry and to introduce students to Postmodern thought. Poets, like Postmodernists, welcome the diverse, the local, the specific, and the plural. These artists collage ideas, peoples, cultures, systems, and timeframes together, in-order to participate in, and shape current cultural discussions. Furthermore, Miniaturists, like Poets, depend on collecting, collaborating, and repurposing, which is why we can interpret miniature arts as poetic and Postmodern. In this lesson, students will examine miniatures that portray this blended way of thinking and creating. Then, students will create a miniature collage of their own, in-which they will have to poetically describe to their peers.

### Materials:

- Paper
- Out-of-date magazines to cut for images or catalogs.
- Glue
- Scissors
- Coloring and writing implements
- Images of miniatures from the internet or The Mini Time Machine Museum of Miniatures

### Objectives:

*This lesson has the following objectives for 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students:*

- Students will be exposed to 3 forms of poetry.
- Students will talk about collage techniques.
- Students will examine miniatures that employ collage techniques.
- Students will create their own collage.
- Students will write their own poems about their collage.

*This lesson will address the following Arizona College and Career Ready Standards in Visual Arts:*

### Strand 1: Create

#### Concept 1: Creative Process

**PO 101:** Contribute to a discussion about ideas for his or her own artwork.

#### Concept 2: Materials, Tools, and Techniques

**PO 101:** Identify and experiment with materials, tools, and techniques in his or her own artwork.

**PO 102:** Use materials, tools, and techniques appropriately in his or her own artwork.

#### Concept 4: Meanings or Purposes

**PO 101:** Select and use subject matter and/or symbols in his or her own artwork.

### Strand 2: Relate

#### Concept 1: Artworlds

**PO 102:** Discuss how artworks are used to communicate stories, ideas, and emotions.

**PO 105:** Make connections between art and other curricular areas.

#### Concept 4: Meanings or Purposes

**PO 101:** Interpret meanings and/or purposes of an artwork using subject matter and symbols.

**Concept 5: Quality**

**PO 102:** Demonstrate respect while responding to others' artwork.

**Strand 3: Evaluate**

**Concept 2: Materials, Tools, and Techniques**

**PO 101:** Describe the visual effects created by an artist's use of tools, materials, and techniques in an artwork.

**Concept 4: Meanings or Purposes**

**PO 101:** Discuss how an artist communicates meaning and/or purpose in an artwork.

**Anticipatory Lesson Sequence:**

**Intro:**

The instructor will talk about The Mini Time Machine Museum of Miniatures and will ask if any of the students have visited the museum before. Then, after describing The Museum, a brief discussion will establish the idea that a miniature is a small, engineered, and artistically created resemblance of a larger counterpart. Emphasis will be given to the concept of room boxes and dioramas as miniatures that can depict a place and time. As well, the instructor should highlight the importance of the use of artifacts when building knowledge.

**Content:**

The instructor will facilitate a discussion about poetry, personality, and how objects can be collaged together to create a message. Then, the instructor will show images of artifacts which highlight gathering and collaging techniques. Students are encouraged to think about why certain creative choices were made over others, what the artist might be saying about themselves through the piece, and how objects can be poetic. Students will be introduced to 3 poetic techniques and 3 forms of poetry.

**Assessment:**

Students will construct a miniature paper collage by drawing, cutting out, and decorating furniture for a room. The instructor will encourage students to think about the creative choices that the students make, and how those creative choices represent their own identity. After creating their collage, students will then write their own narrative poems about their piece.

**Closure:**

Students may elect to present their poems and collages while talking about the creative choices they made. Listening students will practice applauding for peers who present their stories.

**Extension:**

Students may use their poems as inspiration for other written poetic narratives composed after the lesson. Classroom teachers may encourage students to incorporate their poems into a book project. Students and teachers may continue to look for and compare different collages and poems, pointing out how expressive these forms of communication are.