Food for Thought Lesson Plan

Overview

In this study, students will discuss foodways and traditions. Then, they will choose foods that mean something to their culture or personal life. Lastly, they will create a narrative collage of the foods they love and why they are important.

This activity can be done anytime. It works well in connection with *The Food We Celebrate* exhibition on view at the Morris Center from August 27, 2022 - February 25, 2023.

Learning Objectives

- Students will develop critical thinking skills as they explore foodways and how they apply to their own lives.
- Students will cultivate writing skills as they plan their narrative collage.
- Students will practice principles and elements of art as they compose their collage.

Grade Levels:
Kindergarten - Twelfth Grade

Duration:
15-20 minutes to introduce the activity
30 minutes for activity
10 minutes to share

Materials:
• Lined Paper
• Pencil
• Construction paper and/or magazines
• Cardstock
• Glue
• Markers

SC State Standards:
English Language Arts
(I)2.1, 3.1, 3.2 (W) 3.1
Visual Arts
VA.CR.NM.1.1, VA.R.NH.5.1,
VA.C.NL.6

Key Terms:
foodways
traditions
collage
composition
Activity

- Introduce the activity to your students.

  *Foodways are eating habits and culinary practices of a people, region, or historical period. In your life, what are some of your favorite foods and why? Do these foods have special memories? Are they a part of your culture? Take some time to write down some of your favorite foods. Then, you will start to plan a narrative collage of the foods you love.*

  [Depending on the grade level you may want to give students some specific guidelines. Older students may be given time to research the history of some of the foods.]

- You will now have a chance to create a collage of foods.
  - *I will provide construction paper for you to create the foods. You can sketch and cutout the shapes. You can also use magazine images.*
  - Position your foods on the blank piece of cardstock.
  - *Once you have them where you want them, use glue to adhere them.*
  - *Feel free to use markers to add keywords about the foods you chose to highlight.*

  [Depending on the grade level you may want to give students some specific guidelines.]

- Have students share their collage with class and explain why they made the choices they did.