**Grade 2-8 Ukiyo-e (Japanese Print Making)**

***The Great Wave* by Hokusai**

Name: Miss Susanna

Grade level and subject: 2-8 Art, one or two grades at a time

Time: 2 50-minute class periods

Date: Tuesday, October 23, 2017

**Instructional Objectives:**

The student will be able to…

1. Create a styrofoam block-print on a piece of construction paper.
2. Recall the name of *The Great Wave* and its artist, Hokusai, in the end of class discussion.
3. Explain how block-print making worked by participating in discussion at the end of class.

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**Materials Needed:**

1. Dull pencils
2. Styrofoam plates
3. White construction paper
4. Scissors
5. Blue, green, and white Tempera paint
6. Palette or paper plate for paint
7. Foam brushes
8. Map on wall
9. Pointer
10. Chart about lines
11. Craft sticks to stir paint
12. Various sizes of blocks of wood (to show class what may have been used for making a block print)
13. Teacher’s example of Styrofoam “block” and printed image

**Scope and Sequence of Lesson**

**Review / Drill:**

Romanticism, Realism, Impressionism

Lines: calm, active

**Hook / Anticipatory Set:**

* **(Map on wall.)** While all the –*ism*s , were happening here in Europe, especially in France (point on map), the Japanese were doing some amazing artwork of their own. Today we are going to look at the work of a famous block print artist named **Hokusai** (hawks –eye).
* Hokusai practiced a kind of art called ukiyo-e (yoo-**kee**-oh-ey), but we will call it block-print making.
* To create these, first an artist would draw the picture. Next a carver would take a block of wood, (Show various sizes it may have been) and carve the picture into the wood. The carver would use a different block of wood for each color of the picture. Last of all a printer would put paint onto the blocks of wood (a different color for each block) and stamp it onto paper.

**Lesson**

**Introduction:**

* One particular picture that Hokusai became famous for is *The Great Wave.* *The great Wave off the Coast of Kanagawa* is a beautiful piece of artwork. I will show it to you on a slide, then I want you to tell me what you see.
* **Observe:** fishing boats, people, Mount Fuji (volcano) dwarfed by the wave, dark sky, claw-like fingers of the wave.
* **Explain:** **Hokusai** painted things in the world around him, but he used it to show emotions and memories of things he and experienced. What do you think he may have experienced some time? How did he feel about it?
* Show other examples from power point of Japanese block-painting. Notice detail and skill!

**Direct Instruction / Modeling:**

* Today we are going to practice block-print making. Instead of using a wood block, we are going to use the flat surface of styrofoam plates. (Show teacher’s example of styrofoam block and printed image.)
* Remember that this was happening in Japan, while Claude Monet and his friends were busy doing Impressionistic art in Europe. So today’s lesson is not from one of the –*ism*s.
* **First,** we cut off the edges of our plates very carefully. We want to have a nice rectangular shape when we are done.
  + To make the cutting easier, first clip out the corners.
  + Then cut off each edge. **(Cutting and walking around as you talk!)**
* **Say:** Now it is your turn to cut your plate. What will you clip off first?
* **Show** picture of *The Great Wave* (*Art Treasury,* pages 14-15) Explain how the print will be mirrored from the way we first draw it; therefore, we need to draw it backwards.
* **Next,** we are going to draw the big wave. We will not be adding Mount Fugi or the boats and people, because this is the first time we are making a print. Hokusai had lots of practice when he carved *The Great Wave* with all its details. We simply want to learn how to do block-print making. We are not professionals yet.
* **On a piece of practice paper,** I want you to draw what I draw up here on the board. (Draw wave swirls.)
* **Third,** now look at the big wave you drew and draw it on the styrofoam sheet. Go over each line several times to make a better printing block.
* **Now we will gently punch** some holes in our styrofoam to show some spray from the crashing waves. Who can give us an idea how to make some spray circles bigger than others? (punch, draw circles, carve out circles)

**END CLASS ONE.**

**BEGIN CLASS TWO:**

* **TODAY** we are ready to paint. Two people will share a paint puddle. I will come around and squirt paint onto your palettes. I will squirt blue and white. If you want a touch of green in it, I will squirt a bit of green in as well.
* While I am squirting blue and white paint, you will whisper to your partner and decide together if you want a green tint in it or not. What are you going to whisper about? Ready? Go! (Fill palettes.)
* Now one of you take the craft stick and stir the paint carefully. I will be coming around to each group to check if you want a touch of green in your paint.
* **With your foam brush,** gently paint your styrofoam block-print. You can even paint in the directions of your action lines to make your print more active.
* **Last of all,** lay your piece of white construction paper on top of your styrofoam block-print. Keeping your fingers flat, rub softly across the whole surface of the paper.
* **Carefully remove** the paper and lay it right side up. We will cut it out when it is dry.

**Discussion questions as students take turns washing their styrofoam prints:**

* What is the name of this famous Japanese print?
* Who is the artist?
* What do we call this kind of art?

You may take your block-print along home to show your family. You can even try making some more print-outs with it at home to show how it works!

**Self Evaluation**

*Rating: 1 – inadequate, 4 – needs improvement, 6 – satisfactory, 8 – very good, 10 – excellent*

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| **Area** | **Rating** | **Comments** |
| Success in reaching objectives |  |  |
| Student interest and motivation |  |  |
| Variety of student interaction |  |  |
| Classroom management |  |  |
| Differentiated instruction |  |  |