

In my lesson plan I am planning to use for my art integrated lesson, I will be having the students drawing and mock oil painting to depict the movement of the sun across the sky as we investigate predictable patterns of the earth, sun, and moon. I chose this visual art, in particular drawing and mock oil painting, because students will be recording the movement of the sun across the sky as we investigate changes in temperature throughout the day to see if there are correlations between the sun's position and temperature. Students will graph the changes in temperature to find the hottest part of the day so they may use that information to find an optimal time to use solar oven's to cook a s'more. I believe the art lesson about foreground, background, and middle ground will help with conceptualizing the abstract idea that the sun is stationary and the Earth is moving. When I originally taught this lesson, students had a difficult time understanding how the Earth moved in space since what they see appears to be the sun moving. Additionally, the reading comprehension lessons included in the Wit and Wisdom curriculum rely heavily on artwork to help children build literacy skills. My plan for future teaching of this lesson are to embed the inquiry model into our examination of a work of art to build students literacy and science knowledge and skills. Van Gogh is known for his depictions of nature and colorful interpretations of the sky and his creative use of line simulate movement. By examining this artwork using the Teaching with Primary Sources critical analysis tool students will be able to look deeper at the painting to pull in concepts about why temperature changes throughout the day and throughout seasons as well as how to notice and interpret details. Students will be able to then experience painting in the same style as Van Gogh for their final assessment using a special blend of powdered tempera paint, dish soap, and a small amount of water to simulate oil paint in texture.