visual arts — 5^{th} grade

HOW TO & TIPS: MURAL DRAWINGS (ANIMALS):

Lesson 1:

- Students began the year with an observational drawing of a masterwork with text to create a baseline for understanding student development through the year.
- Although I have been teaching many of these students since they were in kindergarten, there are many new ELL's in each class, creating overcrowding in the classroom and behavioral issues due to a lack of understanding of the language.

Lesson 2:

- Students were introduced to the prehistoric caves of Lascaux, France.
- After a few minutes of observational drawing, there followed a lively discussion of early man with questions and observations made about the animals we saw on the walls compared to the scale of the researcher in the photograph.
- Each lesson begins with the question, "What do you notice?" "What makes you say that?" "What does it make you think of?"
- Students took notes including drawing a map of Europe in their learning journals. We discussed making our own cave drawings and creating a prehistoric cave in the gallery space of PS69.
- A demonstration followed of observational drawing of a photograph of an animal.
- Students returned to their worktables to find photographs waiting. Ebony pencil and 9x12 paper. They began their research. Students were asked to do homework research on the animal that they were drawing.

Lesson 3-4:

- Students did a short sketch from the Smartboard of the animals in the cave. A large sheet of brown paper and white chalk was used for my demonstration model. We discussed scale of the animals and collaborative goals.
- Each table group was given their own paper to work on, drawing the animals from their first lesson using white chalk.
- Before the end of class students did a walk about.

Lesson 5:

- Students reviewed group work norms, i.e., include everyone's ideas, listen to each other, help each other with positive suggestions, share the tools.
- There followed a demonstration and discussion of the way to use chalk pastel safely in the classroom. Discussion of clean up procedures, role of monitors.
- By looking through the drawings of another class students were able to co-create a cave drawing rubric.

Lesson 6:

- Students continue to work together, giving peer feedback. The lesson will begin with a review of the rubric and how it might help them with their work.
- Peer feedback at the beginning of the lesson with group feedback worksheets will help to focus their collaboration. (See drawing worksheet Protocol)
- Different groups will give written feedback to each other.
- Discussion with the group about suggestions followed by work session.

Arts Assessment For Learning

Lesson 7: Focused work on drawings, review of worksheets and rubrics.

Lesson 8:

- All work is hung for group critique.
- Students are instructed to follow a modified ladder of feedback, giving a compliment first, and following with a suggestion.
- All students participate while instructor keeps track.
- Groups take notes on suggestions in journals.

Lesson 9-10: Final work sessions, reflections, grading.

Culminating Event: installation of all drawings as a cave

- Evidence of process is highlighted in text boxes as part of the installation.
- Invitations to parents and guests to experience the cave drawings.