

Topic: Coast Salish Design Elements

(Lesson by Brenda Lee, SD79 Cowichan)

Lesson Plan Objectives:

Students will be able to identify and identify and name the Coast Salish Design Elements (Trigon, Crescent, Extended Crescent, Circle, Oval) and create an image using the same.

Salish Weave Collection Print: WUHUS

Artist: Maynard Johnny Jr.

First Peoples Principles and Perspectives

Learning is holistic, reflexive, reflective, experiential, and relational (focused on connectedness, on reciprocal relationships, and a sense of place)

Learning is embedded in memory, history, and story

Learning involves patience and time

Big Ideas: Where are we going?
What will we understand? What will be remembered?

- People create art to express who they are as individuals and community. (Arts Education)
- Stories and traditions about ourselves and our families reflect who we are and where we are from. (Social Studies)

Curricular Competencies	Content
<p>Arts Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explore elements, processes, materials, movements, technologies, tools, and techniques of the arts. <p>Social Studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explain the significance of personal or local events, objects, people or places (significance)	<p>Arts Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Traditional and contemporary Aboriginal arts and arts making processes. <p>Social Studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Personal and family history and traditions.

Lesson Activities

Lesson 1

- Have children form a circle around the outside of the carpet.
- Show children the framed print “Wuhus” and explain that this was created by a local Indigenous artist, Maynard Johnny Jr. (Background: Maynard Johnny Jr. is from Penelakut and was raised in the Cowichan Valley) (Interesting fact: Hul’q’umi’num’ word for frog is Wuxus)
- The title of this print is the Hul’q’umi’num’ word for frog. Show children the two wooden frogs, pass around the circle and finally place in the Sensory bin.
- Ask children what they notice about the print. Are there any patterns or shapes that they recognize in the artwork? Discuss
- Introduce wooden Coast Salish Design Elements one at a time, naming and passing around the circle. The elements included are: Trignons, Crescents, Extended Crescents, Circles, Ovals. Explain that Coast Salish artists use these shapes to create beautiful images. When the pieces make it around the whole circle, place inside the sensory bin.
- Introduce the circle tray that accompanies the Sensory bin. Demonstrate how to find the design elements in the bin and place them on the tray to create an image.
- Ask for volunteers to find the shapes and create an image to share with the group.
- Place the sensory bin on the provocation table and encourage artistic design during discovery play time.

SCAFFOLDING CONSIDERATIONS:

Provide image cards with examples of combinations of the shapes and how they can be used. For example: a “Trigon/Circle/Trigon” creates an eye. These cards can be shown during the lesson and also provided as a provocation during independent sensory bin play.

Resources and Materials

- Salish Weave Collection (Print "Wuhus" by Maynard Johnny Jr.)
- Sensory bin with: dried green split peas, wooden frog instruments, wooden Coast Salish design element shapes, large tweezers, small cups for pouring
- Circle tray

Assessment

- Please see attached rubrics