

EARTHWORKS

LESSON PLAN



WOLF RIDGESM
ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING CENTER



Class Description: A Creative Expression Class

Students will experience seeing and expressing themselves creatively through contact with the natural world. Drawing activities, site-specific sculpture, and group discussion generate awareness of one's own influence on the environment and appreciation for artistic expression.

Total time: 3 hours (two hours outdoors)

Audience: 6-20 students, 4th grade through adult

Activity level: moderate

Travel: variable

GUIDING QUESTION:

How can we explore the relationship of art and the environment through observation and creativity?

CONCEPTS:

1. There are a wide variety of reasons why people choose to create art.
2. Art does not have to be permanent. Change through process and decay are common to all living things.
3. We can learn a lot about our environment by exploring it creatively.
4. The environment can be explored and known on a nonverbal level that can leave lasting impressions on the artist (but perhaps less on the natural canvas.)
5. Awareness, knowledge and appreciation lead to an understanding of our impact on the environment.

OUTCOMES:

Upon completion of Earthworks class students will be able to:

1. Discuss various types of art and what it takes to create "art."
3. Briefly describe the difference between permanent and impermanent art.
4. Have a new understanding of seeing an outdoor space.
5. Create site-specific art using only the materials present, and interpret site-specific sculptures.



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Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center and the USDA are equal opportunity providers and employers.



Equipment

- laminated photos
- natural objects
- color squares

Appendices

- Glossary
- Additional Information
- Optional Activities
- References
- Sources
- Spiral Learning Sheet
- Planning Outline

Set-up (15 min.)

- Classroom/class prep description
- Safety Management

I. What is art to us? (30 min.)

- A. Define Art
- B. Define Earthworks

II. What are natural elements of art? (30 min.)

- A. Color
- B. Shape
- C. Texture/Pattern

III. What will we create? (110 min.)

- A. Preparation
- B. Rules
- C. Small Group Earthworks
- D. Individual Earthworks
- E. Reflection on projects
- F. Artists Through Time

IV. How can art influence our connection to place? (10 min.)

Clean-up (15 min.)