

Explorations

Presented by Mr. Hutson and Mrs. Cedeno's 7th Grade



Essential Question: How can art and storytelling highlight an individual's awareness and connection with their neighborhood?

Launch: Virtual Art Gallery Tours



Immersion & Connections: Online resources, cultural videos, photography videos, mentor texts (Look Both Ways by Jason Reynolds), Poetry Immersion, Harkness Discussions, Art Prints



Creation: Map Puzzle Piece (Representation of Neighborhood),

- Neighborhood Narrative, Neighborhood Poem, Neighborhood Haiku, Cultural Pennant, Neighborhood Photographs



Critique & Revision: Multiple drafts, peer critique



Exhibition: Presentation of learning for families and students at exhibition night.

Standards:

Reading	Writing	Speaking/Listening	Social Studies	Art
LAFS.7.RL.1.1	LAFS.7.W.1.3	LAFS.7.SL.1	SS.7.G.1	VA.68.C.1
LAFS.7.RL.1.2	LAFS.7.W.2.4	LAFS.7.SL.2	SS.7.G.2	VA.68.C.2
LAFS.7.RL.1.3	LAFS.7.W.2.5		SS.7.G.4	VA.68.C.3
LAFS.7.RL.2.4	LAFS.7.W.2.6			VA.68.S.3
LAFS.7.RL.2.5	LAFS.7.W.3.7			VA.68.H.1
LAFS.7.RL.2.6				VA.68.H.3
LAFS.7.RL.3.7				
LAFS.7.RL.3.9				

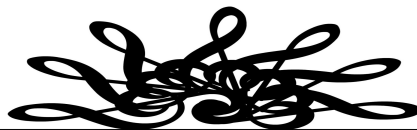
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Project Overview:

The purpose of this project was for the students to explore their neighborhoods through the lens of art. Often times, when asked what a neighborhood is, we refer to locations. Our students were no different. The idea was to identify neighborhoods as much more than just buildings or objects, but as the cultures and the people that surround us. We first had students study different pieces of art and make emotional connections to them. Then they researched their backgrounds and created cultural pennants that were displayed in our classroom neighborhood. Students soon began to realize that neighborhoods are more than places, but are the people, connections and stories that one has within their surroundings. Using Jason Reynolds, Look Both Ways, students studied how narratives of our neighborhoods can bring people together and then wrote literature including, narratives, and poems, that highlighted these connections to the space around them they call their neighborhood. They also studied photography and took pictures of the spaces in their neighborhood that had special meaning to them. Connections between neighborhoods are also important. To show this, students created a giant puzzle map of Palm Beach County and were tasked with painting, collaging, transferring photos and writing onto their piece things that represent their neighborhood. The students insisted on adding the ocean and everglades to our map, as they play a huge part in our lives and are also neighbors of Palm Beach County. The completed puzzle represents, "that although all of our neighborhoods are separated, we are all connected by more than just space, but with culture and stories as well."



The Conservatory School
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