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Ode to Nature

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Exploring Art and Science
through the use of pressed flowers



Erika Reboucas

erika_reboucas@dadeschools.net
Pinecrest Academy South Charter School
School mail code:0342

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GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this project was to explore Oshibana, a traditional Japanese art form, while making connections between Art and Science by creating a pressed flower collage. Students explore Botany and Art concepts in a unique way by creating their own Oshibana masterpieces. This project is best implemented once students have a basic understanding of plant anatomy. This is a great way to reinforce science concepts and our connection to nature through the world of Art.

Each student will identify different parts of a plant and will learn how to press them in order to create their artwork. Students will collect, press, and arrange their pressed flowers into a finished composition.

FLORIDA STANDARDS

SC.4.L.16.1- Identify processes of sexual reproduction in flowering plants, including pollination, fertilization (seed production), seed dispersal, and germination.

SC.4.L.17.4 - Recognize ways plants and animals, including humans, can impact the environment.

VA.4.S.1 - The arts are inherently experiential and actively engage learners in the processes of creating, interpreting, and responding to art.

VA.4.S.2 - Development of skills, techniques, and processes in the arts strengthens our ability to remember, focus on, process, and sequence information.

VA.4.H.3 – Connections among the arts and other disciplines strengthen learning and the ability to transfer knowledge and skills to and from other fields.

COURSE OUTLINE AND OVERVIEW

This unit can be a long term project for upper elementary students. The initial introduction can happen either in science or art depending on how you would like to structure the lessons. Students would benefit from a cross disciplinary approach affording them opportunities to explore different aspects of lessons in depth by involving both art and science classes.

- I. Preparation
 - Decide if students will be introduced to project through Science, Art, or both classes.
 - Gather materials and supplies.

- II. Introduction
 - Present an overview of science and art connection to Oshibana.

- III. Implementation
 - Make plants available for student exploration.
 - Provide instructions for pressing flowers and allow time for students to gather their own plants.
 - Students create flower diagrams
 - Students arrange their pressed flowers into a finished composition.
 - Each student will identify different parts of a plant and will learn how to press them in order to create their artwork. Students will collect, press, and arrange their pressed flowers into a finished composition.

LESSON PLANS



*Art
Lesson Plan*

Grade

Ms. Rebouças

Start Date - week of

Time hours

End Date - week of

Lesson

Big Ideas

critical thinking and reflection

skills, techniques, and processes

historical and global connections

Benchmarks

VA.4.C.3.3 Use the art-making process, analysis, and discussion to identify the connections between art and other disciplines.

VA.4.S.1.3 Create artworks that integrate ideas from culture or history.

VA.2.H.3.1 Describe connections made between creating with art ideas and creating with information from other content areas.

SC.4.L.17.4 Recognize ways plants and animals, including humans, can impact the environment.
SC.4.L.16.1 Identify processes of sexual reproduction in flowering plants, including pollination, fertilization (seed production), seed dispersal and germination

Objective

SWBAT - Identify different parts of a flower and learn how to press them in order to create their Oshibana artwork. They will use the art-making process, analysis and discussion to identify connections between art and science.

Inclusion

ESOL

SPED

Related Testing Skills

Communication

Math

*SPED/ESOL students listed under SPED/ESOL tabs - please refer to planning binder

Visuals/Resources

Samples - completed work
flower diagram guide

Materials

newspaper, flowers,
scissors, hardcover books
(for flower pressing), glue ,
tweezers
cardstock, fabric squares,
toothpicks, small
paintbrushes, colored
pencils

Vocabulary

Oshibana
flower anatomy

home learning sketchbook/journal

Activities

Session 1 -
Overview of science and art connection to Oshibana.
Pressing flowers - instructions and exploration (in class
and suggestions for home practice).

* Session 2 - Flower diagrams - Allow at least one week
between session 1 and session 3 activities so that
flowers have time to dry.

Session 3 - Arrange pressed flowers into a finished
composition

Session 4- Critique/self-evaluation

Assessment

- Observation of final product
- Interview with student
- Group assessment (critique)
- Observation of process (students working)
- Self-assessment by student

Portfolio

C. Compiles a variety of processes,

Journals

C. Teacher-generated assignments

Base Assessment

RESOURCE LIST

Grade level science textbooks, internet access for visuals and research on flower pressing and Oshibana and the following websites –

Natural History Museum - <https://www.nhm.ac.uk/discover/how-to-press-flowers.html>

Flower Anatomy - <https://www.enchantedlearning.com/subjects/plants/printouts/floweranatomy.shtml>

Oshibana introduction - <https://wordovation.in/2018/03/15/oshibana/>

Oshibana Art - <https://www.oshibana.com.br/>

Recommended supplies –

- A few flower bunches to get students started and to go over proper flower pressing procedures for independent practice.
- Philately curved tip tweezers (optional - but makes handling the more delicate dried flowers easier) here is a link 2 for \$6 - [craft/philately tweezers](#)
- White cotton cloth pieces/scrap (5x5 or so) – used to absorb excess glue
- Newspaper, heavy hardcover books or flower press
- Glue (small plastic lids to make glue application easier), toothpicks, small paint brushes, cardstock, single hole punch, white labels

STUDENT WORK SAMPLES







