

MORAVIAN UNIVERSITY

Teacher Name: Katie Dawe
Lesson Topic/Theme: Chris Sickles / Red Nose Studio
Grade Level(s): Highschool ES. (art club students)

National Core Art Standard(s) <https://www.nationalartsstandards.org/>
([Link to Standards Crosswalk](#))

- VA:Cr2.1.IIa Through experimentation, practice, and persistence, demonstrate acquisition of skills and knowledge in a chosen art form.

Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Identify the work of contemporary artist Chris Sickles,
- understand how the artist uses dolls to create illustrations.
- Use mixed media materials to create their own dolls.

Materials Needed for this lesson

- Wire
- Felt
- Hot Glue
- Paper
- Paperclay
- Plastic eyes
- Paint
- Masking tape

Lesson Procedures & Steps

- This lesson is designed for a small group art club. It would be done over the span of three sessions.

First Session:

- Students will be seated for a short presentation about our inspiring artist Chris Sickles and his studio, Red Nose Studio.
- The first slide will be an overview of the artist's life and accomplishments, the next will be examples of his work, and the third will be short stop motion animation clips that students can choose from.
- Students will start the project by building up the base or skeleton for their own doll using wire, paper towels, and masking tape. (each table will have its own hot glue gun for students to share)
- In progress examples will be passed around as a guide, along with the diagrams included in the lesson plan.
- A plastic easter egg will be hot glued to the neck, and eyes will be glued onto the egg.
- Students will roll strips of paper and attach to the wire arms and legs with glue.

Second Session:

- Students will each get a ball of paper clay. They will be instructed to tear off four evenly sized small pieces to make hands and feet.
- The remaining clay will be rolled into a ball, flattened into a slab, and pressed over the face, then sculpted to add features.
- The remaining clay will be added to the ends of the wires to form hands and feet.
- The clay will take 24 hours to dry, so students will spend the rest of class using a planning worksheet to make decisions about the character they will create.
- They will be asked to brainstorm as a group what kind of story their character would come from, like the doll illustrations of Chris Sickles, and sketch simple outfit and color ideas.

Third Session:

- Students will review the plans they created for their characters during the previous session, and choose felt and paint colors to match from the supply table.
- They will collect their now dried dolls and add paint to all of the clay and paper surfaces.
- When the paint has dried they will choose a printed clothing template to trace onto their felt.
- After cutting their felt they will glue the clothes onto their dolls.
- Extra details can be added at the end using felt or paint.
- If there is time, students will each introduce their doll to the group, telling the class about the decisions they made and the backstory they have imagined for the character.

Assessment - Formative & Summative

- Students will fill out worksheets during the making process that I will look at to assess understanding.
- At the end of the project, when students present their work, their explanation of decision making will showcase their level of understanding.

Universal Design Strategies

- The diagrams included in the lesson plan will be printed out and distributed to help students who need reminders of how to construct their dolls.
- Physical examples of dolls in different stages of construction will be available for students to gain a hands-on understanding.
- The lesson can be simplified in many ways depending on student skill levels. The head can be replaced with a large wooden bead if the sculpting process proves too difficult, and the arms can be wrapped in wire instead of rolled paper.

Specific Pedagogical Strategies

- This lesson utilizes a hands on approach to learning, while also incorporating some written responses to keep students on track.

Examples of the project/project steps

