Name of Presenter: Penny Venola

Grade Level: ALL: Elementary MS HS University Special Needs

Background Information:
Jesters, clowns, entertainers, masks have been around since ancient times. This lesson builds on that tradition to create small jester heads using air dry clay.

Content Standards:
1.0 ARTISTIC PERCEPTION: Students will respond to and discuss examples of jester heads, clowns, masks, and entertainers, identifying the elements of shape, form, and color. They will identify symmetry, exaggeration, and expression in the examples.
2.0 CREATIVE EXPRESSION: Students will create a jester head.
3.0 HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL CONTEXT: Students will become aware of the variety of human expression and reasons for creating a variety of historic examples.
4.0 AESTHETIC VALUING: Students will create a rubric to evaluate their heads.
5.0 CONNECTIONS, RELATIONSHIPS, APPLICATIONS: Students will investigate jesters, clowns, masks, and entertainers online. They will give their heads a name and write a description of the emotions portrayed by their creations.

Common Core Content Standards addressed with the lesson: Students will write a description of the emotions portrayed by their creations.

Learning Objectives/Goals/Enduring Understandings:
Students will study images of clowns, jesters, and cartoon faces to see how features can be exaggerated for comic effect. They will learn how to apply texture using a variety of tools. They will learn to apply limited amounts of paint, ribbon, and assorted materials to decorate the heads.
Students will understand the difference between implied and actual texture.
Students will understand the role of comic figures to entertain, delight, and provide humor to relieve the stress of life. Students will understand that art can be made from a variety of materials.
Vocabulary:
Jester/s
Clowns
Masks
Exaggeration
emotion

Materials:
Dowels or pencils, or sticks for handles
Aluminum foil
Air-dry clay
Acrylic paint, metallic markers, fine line permanent black marker
Flexible wire
Optional googly eyes, ribbons, beads, bells, feathers, sequins, beads, rhinestones, etc.
Tacky glue

Motivation:
Students will explore masks, jesters, clowns, and entertainers makeup online and view examples.

Procedure:
1. Roll a tight ball of aluminum around the top of a pencil or a piece of dowel the length of a pencil.
2. Roll out a chunk of air-dry clay about \( \frac{1}{4} \)" thick and form it around the ball of aluminum foil to cover.
3. Insert a length of wire the desired length of the nose into the aluminum ball about half way down. Insert any wires into top of head to support bells or beads, if desired. Form a at or topknot if desired.
4. Cover nose wire with air-dry clay.
5. Allow to dry if desired. Or, paint directly on wet clay.
6. If desired: Attach bells to wires on top of head. Tie ribbons around dowel at bottom on head and attach bells and/or beads to some ribbons. Glue googly eyes in place.
7. Students will write an artist’s statement describing the emotion they have created and how they exaggerated features.

Assessment and/or Evaluation:
Students will write an evaluation rubric with teacher direction using samples.

Extensions:
Students could create a larger head using Styrofoam balls or wig stands.
Create a humorous monologue, tell a joke or funny story. Have students perform for class.
Resources:
Commons.wikipedia.org/wiki/category:clowns_in_art
En.wikipedia.org/wiki/jester
Google: images of jesters in medieval times
Google: images for artists who paint clowns
Google: images for cartoon faces
Google: images for theater masks