



MORRIS CENTER

FOR LOWCOUNTRY HERITAGE

Grade Levels:

K-12

Duration:

15 minutes to introduce the activity

40-60 minutes for activity

Materials:

- Paper
- Pencils
- Discarded objects
- "Canvas" (Masonite, cardboard, anything that can handle the weight of the objects)
- Glue

SC State Standards:

Visual Arts

VA.R NH.5.1, VA.C NL.6

Key Terms:

assemblage

material culture

composition

value

A Class Assembled Lesson Plan

Overview

In this study, students will draw inspiration of the art of Kirkland Smith. The students will be brainstorm and select a subject for a class assemblage. Afterwards, students will gather postconsumer objects to compose their assemblage.

This activity can be done anytime. It works well as a post-visit activity in connection with *The (In)disposable Art of Kirkland Smith* on view [January 14 - July 15, 2023].

Learning Objectives

- Students will acquire knowledge of principles of design.
- Students will develop collaboration skills as they work together to plan and assemble their finished piece of art.
- Students will practice principles and elements of arts to create a finished assemblage.



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Activity

- Introduce the activity to your students.

- Prior to activity day, have students gather and bring in discarded objects. Make sure they are clean. (plastic containers, old electronics, old toys, etc.)

Today we will work together to create a collaborative piece of art inspired by the assemblages of Kirkland Smith. We will discuss some of the principles and elements of art and design that she uses to create her work and how they can be used to create our class piece. [Disposable America by Kirkland Smith is attached for reference.]

- *What is represented in this picture?*
- *What colors do you see? The artist uses values of those colors (lighter and darker shades) to give it depth.*

We will break into groups and sketch ideas for our assemblage. It will need to be simple to sketch on a larger scale. Once each group completes a simple sketch and presents to the class we will vote. The winning design will be used for our finished piece.

- Have some of the students work on the sketch of the design onto the finished “canvas.” The rest of the students can sort the collected objects into color groups and values of the colors based on the colors needed for the design. Afterwards the groups can work on assigned areas of the piece, placing and gluing the objects down. [Depending on the grade level you may want to give students some specific guidelines.]
- Please see this link: https://www.readwritethink.org/sites/default/files/resources/lesson_images/lesson95/coop_rubric.pdf for a Cooperative Learning Rubric to evaluate group participation.

