

Duncan ColorWorks

Character Bust Ceramic Art Lesson Plan



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Character Bust - - Ceramic Art Lesson Plan

By Toby Ritenour

Grade Level: K-3 & 4-6

Duration: 3-½ hours: 1st day-1 hour, 2nd day-1 hour, 3rd day- 1 hour, and 4th day- ½ hour.

Focus:

In literature there are many characters found in writing. These characters are protagonists, heroines, heroes, and other support characters that make a story interesting. The reader is connected to a character by written images that we find familiar and can care about. A book that is powerful and enjoyable has a good, believable, and strong analysis of a character or characters. This lesson can work two ways. The first possible lesson could be to read a book, analyze the character in the story and then create a bust of that character using your analysis. The second possible lesson could be that the students create a bust and then generate a character analysis that will then allow them to write a story for the bust. Both lessons would be an excellent way to delve into the building and understanding of character analysis, good stories, as well as art.

Educational Objectives:

This lesson provides opportunities for students to:

- Expand the connection between art and other educational genres.
- Learn to write a character analysis.
- Build a bust using character analysis.
- Develop confidence in art by exploring principles of design and art elements.
- Develop a sense of process, tools, and materials.

Preparation:

- Share historical bust images.
- Provide examples of the best available character analysis and read story examples.
- Build a bust prior to the lesson as an example.
- Pre draw possible ideas, at least three drawings to help start the project.
- Discuss the process and present a timeline for the work.

Vocabulary:

- **Three-dimensional** Having height, width, and depth. Also referred to as 3-D.
- **Subtractive** Refers to sculpting method produced by removing or taking away from the original material (the opposite of additive).
- **Structure** The way in which parts are arranged or put together to form a whole.
- **Sculpture** A three-dimensional work of art either in the round (to be viewed from all sides) or in base relief (low relief in which figures protrude slightly from the background).

Duncan Materials:

Cover-Coat™ Glazes:

- Variety of Cover-Coat™ Glazes
- For 25 students, this project would require:
- CC101 Artic White, 3, 2 oz. bottles
 - CC190 Baby Blue, 3, 2 oz. bottles
 - CC117 Walnut Brown, 5, 2 oz. bottles
 - CC165 Black Brown, 5, 2 oz. bottles



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Envision™ Glazes:

- IN 1001 Clear Glaze, 1 pt.
- IN 1074 Cranberry (first skin color) 10, 2 oz. bottles
- IN 1054 Cantaloupe (second coat skin color) 10, 2 oz. bottles

Brushes/Tools:

- BR 582 No. 5/0 Detail
- BR 529 No. 4 Sabeline Round
- TL 415 Sponge

Miscellaneous Materials:

- 60 pounds of White bodied clay (approximately 2 lbs. for each student)
- Newspaper
- Drawing paper
- Sturdy paper plates or pieces of wood for student busts

Step-by-Step Instructions:

1. After pre drawing some of your ideas, start building scaffolding out of clay slab, this will support your bust. Your bust must be hollow because solid forms will explode due to air pockets.
2. Once the scaffolding is built start molding your clay slab into a head shape around the scaffold. Don't forget the shoulders, they will help stabilize your bust so it will not fall over.
3. Once the basic shape is in place you can start adding and removing for specific features.
4. Once your head is complete set it aside.
5. Set aside the piece under newspaper to dry for two to three days.
6. When the piece is completely dry, paint your design with Cover-Coat™ and Envision™ Glazes underglazes, stilt and carefully bisque fire to Cone 04.
7. Paint the eyes and teeth with Envision™ IN 1001 Clear Glaze. Fire to Cone 06.

Assessment:

- Set high standards for students and discuss how to reach them.
- Discuss with students why decisions were made based on insight, rationale and technique.
- Have students assess their own work, in addition to their peers, to gain understanding and appreciation.
- Use a variety of specific types of evaluation to determine individual and group performance.
- Continue assessment after project completion to help students reflect on projects and enhance further creations.

Connections:

- Language Arts:
 - Write a character analysis.
 - Write a story using the character analysis.
- Math:
 - Weigh and measure wet and dry clay.
 - Discuss the heat chemistry.
- Social Studies:
 - Research historically significant busts.
 - Locate characters in literature by time period.



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References:

Penn State Fayette:

<http://www.fe.psu.edu/~fca1/charsket.doc>

Gaston College:

<http://www.gaston.cc.nc.us/gconline/eng131/CHAR.html>

3D Legends:

<http://www.3dlegends.com/>

Talaria Enterprises:

<http://www.museumcopy.com/productlists/greekmarblebust.html>

Art History Resources:

<http://witcombe.sbc.edu/ARTHLinks6.html>

Health & Safety:

Products used in the Colorworks™ program are created with children in mind. Therefore, they are lead free and non-toxic.