

risd | Project Open Door

LESSON PLAN (Single Session Plans)

Workshop Title	
Teaching Artist	Ruchi Pathak, Diana Ryoo
Workshop Session	Spring
Workshop Media	Clay sculpture, Identity
Age Group	14-17 (can be modified for younger age groups)

Workshop Description: *Write 2-4 sentences describing the class*

The objective of this class is to re-introduce students to clay (dough) as a creative tool instead of a play material for kids. Through clay sculpting, we understand the idea of identity and learn to celebrate diversity within the class. This session also draws attention to details about the people present in class like what they are wearing, how do they prefer to tie their hair, whether someone has freckles or not, what is the tonal value of every skin. We hope to build a more intimate relationship within the group through this art session.

Essential Questions: *What big questions will you and your Young Artists address during your workshop*

- What is identity?
- How are we all unique and how are we similar?
- What would a hybrid identity look like?
- What does the visual representation of inclusion, mutual respect and celebration of cultures look like?

Project Schedule: *How will you go about teaching the session?*

1. This workshop will be split across 2 sessions (2 hours each)

Session: 1

- The students will be given a piece of paper on which they will note 3-5 unique physical attributes about each person present in the room.
- Next, each student will choose 1-2 attributes of each person and sculpt a portrait out of clay with those. The inspiration of this part of the lesson is drawn from exquisite corpse.
- The final portrait sculpture will be a new collective/combined identity with physical attributes of everyone present. Although all students are doing the same exercise, the outputs may be quite different depending on what attributes a student decides to use from which person.

Session: 2

- The students will use the first half hour of this session to add any final details to their portrait sculpture that they may have missed in the previous class.
- The students will place their artworks together and collectively decide how they may interact.
- They will also create other identifiers like a badge or a bag or a hair band that are peculiar to people in the room. The idea is to help them understand interactions between the subjects of the artwork and create a conversation through their composition.

Enduring Understandings: *What life skills, concepts and connections will YAs walk away from your class with?*

The students will learn the techniques and skills of clay sculpting. They will experience the patience of working with details. The students will have a dialogue on cultural identities and their representation within the arts. They will learn to respect the diverse nature of individual identity and also be able to see a more global form through the collective identity their artwork will represent.

Materials List

- Magic dough: 1 box (Red, Blue, Yellow, White)
- Sculpting tools
- Paper
- Pen/pencil

