



Standard Connections

[National Visual Arts](#)

Standard 3
Standard 4
Standard 5
Standard 6

[Nebraska Language Arts](#)

Standard 1
Standard 3

[Psychology Personality Traits](#)

FROM PARTICLES TO PLANETS LANGUAGE ARTS LESSON GRADE: 4

RATIONALE:

Students will be able to identify individual personality traits that create a whole person. While reading *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* and viewing the *From Particles to Planets* exhibit for inspiration, students will explore various methods of expressing mood and emotion through psychology and literature. Students will make comparisons of how writers and artists portray personality in their work by reading and identifying personality traits of characters within a story and the art pieces in the exhibit.

MATERIALS:

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever by Barbara Robinson
Thesaurus
Dictionary
Personality Traits for Elementary Students
Note Cards for Museum Visit

Procedures:

PREVISIT:

1. Read *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* and discuss personality traits of the characters within the stories.
2. As the book is read, list various personality traits of the main characters, the Herdman children, within the book.
3. Post silhouettes of each character around the classroom. Add corresponding character traits, adjective vocabulary words, to these posters.
4. Using a Dictionary and Thesaurus, generate synonyms to add to each silhouette poster.
5. Use Venn diagrams to compare / contrast the Herdman children's personality traits with more socially accepted traits.

6. Using lead questions and brainstorming, discuss what an art museum and art exhibit is. Instruct and practice appropriate actions while at an art exhibit.
7. Instruct the students of their assignment while at the exhibit.

AT THE EXHIBIT:

8. Docent the students around the exhibit giving them historical and cultural information about the artists and the artwork. Ask questions to prompt the following thoughts.
9. Give each student a note card to record answers for each of the following.
10. If the artwork were a person, what personality trait would it be? Provide students with a word bank of different personality traits.
11. Select an element or principle of design that expresses the personality trait of the selected piece of artwork. Example - Color = the color of the picture is red. It is making the artwork appear to have the personality of mad or angry
12. For closure, students should do a brief oral presentation of their selected artwork, explain why the artwork was selected, what personality trait it represents, and the art element or principle of design used to create the expression in the art piece.

Resources:

Personality Traits for Elementary Students Handout
Thesaurus
Dictionary

Sheldon *From Particles to Planets* exhibit:

http://www.sheldonartmuseum.org/exhibitions/sheldon_statewide

Psychology Word Bank

