

Charles S. Chapman and a Grand Canyon Composition

Grades 6-12

Chapman was commissioned by the Museum of Natural History in NYC to paint a mural depicting the Grand Canyon. For our project, the students will be exposed to a newer type of medium than traditional painting when they create their collage art works based on Charles Chapman and the Grand Canyon.

Lesson Overview



The grade level this lesson is designed for is 6-12 and the subject is art. The length of the lesson will be 40 minutes. This lesson will be considered a meaningful use task, (M.U.T.), in a class that revolves around Charles Chapman (1879-1962) who enjoyed a career as a visual artist.

Charles Chapman was a native to Morristown NY but travelled west frequently and his subject matter often revolved around Western images and scenes. For the course offered, students will view a Power Point presentation about Chapman and his life, view his original artworks first hand at the Frederic Remington Art Museum, and create the M.U.T.

Essential Question(s)

- Who was Charles Chapman?
- Where was he from?
- Who was the artist that inspired Chapman in his career choice?
- Why should I know who Charles Chapman was?
- What subjects did Chapman enjoy interpreting on canvas?
- How can I create a Chapman inspired art work?

Objectives

By the end of this lesson, the students will be able to:

- Tell the instructor who Charles Chapman was, where he was from, and what he did for a living
- Tell the instructor what kinds of images Chapman depicted in his work
- Create an art work based on Chapman's work depicting the Grand Canyon

NY Curriculum Standards

- NY.ART.K-12.1 Students will actively engage in the processes that constitute creation and performance in the arts (dance, music, theatre, and visual arts) and participate in various roles in the arts
- NY.ART.K-12.2 Students will be knowledgeable about and make use of the materials and resources available for participation in the arts in various roles.
- NY.ART.K-12.3 Students will respond critically to a variety of works in the arts, connecting the individual work to other works and to other aspects of human endeavor and thought

Anticipatory Set- Description of the Lesson Launch activity

Students will arrive at Kid's Place and be verbally led into the lesson. For the launch, students will be shown a Power Point presentation. Power Point will include:

- Areal map of Morristown NY and Chapman Point, where Chapman lived
- Background on Chapman's life with pictures of him and his art work
- Pictures of the Grand Canyon and some written descriptions of how some artists have described the colors/scenery
- Examples of how an artist can create the illusion of depth on a 2D plain
- Examples of contrasting and complimentary colors
- Examples of paper collages

Description of how objectives will be communicated to students

This will be done using the Power Point presentation. Students will see Chapman's work, pictures of the Grand Canyon, and examples of collages all in the slide show. The last slide of the Power Point will have directions for the collage project explaining how to create their own unique Grand Canyon composition.

Description of the relevance of the learning

By combining the information provided in the Power Point with a field trip to the Museum to see original art works by Chapman, the group now has the foundational knowledge to create a M.U.T.

The connection should be brought to their attention that there were and are very famous artists that are from the same area that they themselves are from and are currently living in. Coming from an underprivileged area, this realization may open these student's eyes to a bigger and brighter world and future waiting for them beyond our area.

Connection to standards

NY.ART.K-12.1- Students will engage in the process of art work creation through completing their M.U.T.
NY.ART.K-12.2- Students will become aware of collage materials and construction through the M.U.T.
NY.ART.K-12.3- Students will respond critically to a variety of works when they view Chapman's work in the Power Point and in person. They will connect the individual work to other works when they view pictures of the Grand Canyon and examples of collages in the Power Point. They will connect other aspects of Charles Chapman's human endeavor and thought to their aspects of them when they embark to create an artwork based on Chapman's artwork.

Introduce New Information & New Concepts

The students will learn declarative and procedural knowledge in this lesson.

Declarative Knowledge- Factual knowledge that they will learn

- Where Chapman was from
- What he did for a living
- Who his inspiration was

Procedural Knowledge- How-to knowledge that the students will learn

- How to examine original art work
- How to infer meaning from an artwork
- How to visualize a composition made from collage materials based on a scene
- How to create a collage based on a scene

Guided Practice

- The objectives will have been communicated through the Power Point presentation
- Students will be given scrap paper to tear and cut, experimenting with how the edge of the paper looks when a torn edge is compared to a cut edge
- Students will be asked to think back on the color portion of the Power Point and then experiment with placing colors on their card stock that represent colors seen at the Grand Canyon, remembering and noting how colors can compliment and contrast each other
- They will be asked to think about how artists can create the illusion of depth on a flat surface and then be guided individually on how they can also make their work look dimensional
- A demonstration showing how to glue the paper together in layers way will be provided
- Students will create their art work combining all aspects of lesson together

Assessments

The successful completion of the M.U.T. will assess understanding of the art lesson. By asking students the essential questions and hearing answers, assessment of learning for the entire class will be complete.

Closure

For a closure, students will be reminded of the wide, wonderful world that waits for them beyond the borders of our small city and state. They will also be reminded of how proud they should feel when thinking of the talented artist from our small area Charles Chapman.

Materials Needed

- Power Point presentation
- Scissors
- Glue
- Scrapbooking paper
- Card Stock

Supplies Needed

Oriental Trading

www.orientaltrading.com

American Craft Foil Paper	\$16.00/30 sheets	1	\$16.00
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IN-65/60846

Die Cuts with a View Paper Pack	\$20.00/48 sheets	1	\$20.00
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IN-65/61182

Full Color Spectrum Paper Pack	\$19.99/150 sheets	1	\$19.99
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IN-65/60084

Elmer's Glue All	\$17.99/12 glue bottles	1	\$17.99
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IN-73/10002

Charles S. Chapman and a Grand Canyon Composition

Born in Morristown NY, Charles Chapman (1879-1962) was a noted teacher, painter, and illustrator educated at Pratt Institute and at William Merritt Chase's Art School in New York City. He was highly influenced by friend and mentor, the famed western artist Frederic Remington.

He became an instructor at the Art Students League in New York and was also a book illustrator. He carried enthusiasm and communicated excitement about the transformation of life into art to his students who, according to Grant Reynard, president of the Montclair Art Museum in NJ, "took fire from his glowing ardor."

Chapman specialized in landscapes, and traveled extensively in the West, especially Wyoming and Arizona where a frequent subject was the Grand Canyon. In the 1930s, he was commissioned by the Museum of Natural History in New York to paint a thirty-by-thirty-foot mural of the Grand Canyon as a background for the Puma group exhibit. He camped for several weeks at the rim of the Canyon while he worked on this project.



He was a member of the Salmagundi Club, a center for American art since 1871, where he repeatedly won honors. Also a member of the National Academy of Design, two of his paintings won their highest award, the Saltus Medal. "In the Deep Wood" was acquired by the Metropolitan Museum and "Forest Primeval" was purchased by the Ranger Fund Academy. Other paintings are located in several venues, from the Montclair Art Museum in NJ to the Frederic Remington Art Museum in NY, to the NY Public Library to the Library of Congress in Washington DC.

Chapman died in Leonia, New Jersey in 1962. His wife Ada, to whom he was married more than fifty years, wrote a biography of his life, published in 1964. While assuming success and fame, we can again quote Reynard saying Chapman was a "quiet, unassuming gentleman, dedicated to his art and grateful, at each completion, for the fine creative works which came from his easel."

Collage Lesson: Chapman was commissioned by the Museum of Natural History in NYC to paint a mural depicting the Grand Canyon. For our project, the students will be exposed to a newer type of medium than traditional painting when they create their collage art works based in the Grand Canyon.

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Charles Chapman working at the Museum of Natural History in NYC

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Grand Canyon, date unknown