

ROBERSON MUSEUM AND SCIENCE CENTER

Post-Visit Homegrown: Our Class Tree

Grade Level: K through 2

New York State Learning Standards: Arts 1, 2

Pennsylvania Learning Standards: RWS&L 1.6; A&H 9.1

Objectives: By working together, students will create a class tree. This will represent the planting of a new tree to replace those that were cut down. This project will reinforce the idea that we use trees and their wood every day.

Materials:

- List made during pre-visit lesson plan
- One piece of paper for every student
- Pencils
- Materials for decorating (paper, magazine clippings, markers, colored pencils, crayons, etc.)
- Scissors
- Large poster board with pre-drawn trunk
- Glue

Procedure:

1. Begin the class by asking the students to recall their trip to the Roberson Museum. Also, remind them of the lessons they learned from the story of *The Giving Tree*, such as the importance of replanting trees to replace those that were cut down. The teacher may also want to hang up in the classroom the list or drawings created during the pre-visit lesson plan of anything that is made with wood.
2. Tell the students that by working together, they will be making their own class tree in order to represent the trees that need to be replanted.
3. The students will be using a pencil to trace the outline of their hand onto a piece of paper to represent tree leaves and branches. **Note: The teacher may want to demonstrate on the board how this is done.**
4. Then, using a variety of materials, like tissue paper, magazine clippings, markers, colored pencils, crayons, etc., they will decorate inside the lines of their traced hand.
5. Explain to the students that they can decorate their leaves as they like. Remind them that they can draw their own pictures or clip pictures from the magazine of things that are made with wood.
6. Students or the teacher, if the students are too young, may cut out their hand outlines.
7. The teacher should draw a tree trunk on a large piece of poster board for the class tree.

8. Once the hand outlines are decorated and cut out, they will be glued above the tree trunk to look like the crown (the leaves and branches) of a tree.
9. The tree is complete and may be hung up in the classroom.

Conclusion: Students have created their own class tree by working together. The concept of trees in our everyday lives is reinforced while this project is being completed.

Additional topics: To continue this project, allow the students to think of adjectives, or describing words, for trees. Write their responses around the class tree.

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