

Geography: Exploring the South through Photographs (Grades K-2)

Pre-Visit

Overview:

Students will look at photographs from *Southern Accent: Seeking the American South in Contemporary Art* and find the location in which they were taken on a map of the United States.

Activity:

Begin by showing a map of the United States and reviewing the key map features: title, map key, scale, compass, etc.

Ask students:

- What state do we live in?
- Who can find it on the map?
- What city do we live in?
- Who can point it out for the class?
- What region do we live in?

Next, project the image: *Session Four: Thundersnow Road* by Xaviera Simmons.

Lead students through a quick visual discussion of this photograph:

- What's going on in this picture?
- What do you see that makes you say that?
- What more can we find?

Then, let students know that this photograph was taken in Durham in 2010.

Explain that the exhibition they will view at the Nasher Museum is called *Southern Accent: Seeking the American South in Contemporary Art* which is trying to discover if there is something special about art made in the South.

Finally, ask students:

- What do you think is special about where we live?



Xaviera Simmons, *Session Three: Player* from the project *Thundersnow Road*, North Carolina, 2010. Chromogenic print, edition 1/3; 40.125 x 50 inches (101.92 x 127 cm). Collection of the Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University, Durham, North Carolina. Museum purchase; 2010.6.2. Image courtesy of the artist and David Castillo Gallery, Miami Beach, Florida. © Xaviera Simmons.