

LOOKING AT LANDSCAPES

Subject: Visual/Language Arts

Grade Level: Grades K-5

Guided Instruction

Introduce or review three genres or types of artwork: still life, portrait, and landscape. Ask students to find an example of each in their home – all three examples are likely to be found in family photos for example.

Display the images *First Crop*, by Thomas Hart Benton, and *View of the Shimmering Sea From Woods Hole, Mass.*, by Feodor Zakharov. Both images are on page two or viewable here:



Discuss the images by asking:

- What is going on in these pictures?
- What do you see that makes you say that?
- What more can we find?

Review the term *setting*.

How might where an artist lives influence what an artist paints or creates?

How might the need to stay at home or within one space influence what an artist creates?

Guided Practice/Application

Ask students to discuss some of the places they may have traveled to or visited with their family. Look at pictures to help trigger memories or brainstorm a list of favorite places. Then, have students draw a landscape picture of a favorite place (beach, garden, zoo, museum, shopping mall) they have visited.

Have students write about their landscape picture supplying facts to help the audience understand their favorite place. Remind students that details, descriptive words, and feeling words are important things to include in their writing.

If possible, have students share their finished landscape and written description digitally with the instructor and each other. Alternatively, ask the student to show and discuss their finished work with whomever they are sharing space with currently.

Common Core Unit: 3: Life Lessons

Focus Skill: fact and opinion

Essential Question(s):

How does location affect what an artist might create? How can we classify pictures?

Learning Target:

I can describe characteristics of artwork such as lines, colors, and textures.

I can describe how an artist's location may affect his/her artwork.

I can classify art into categories such as landscapes, still lifes, portraits.

I can give facts about my drawing (related to personal drawing).

Vocabulary

still life, landscape, portrait, location, setting



Feodor Zakharov, American, *View of the Shimmering Sea from Woods Hole, Massachusetts*, c. 1927. Oil on canvas, 32 x 45 inches (81.3 x 114.3 cm). Collection of the Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University, Durham, NC, USA. Museum purchase, 1996.6.1. Photo by Peter Paul Geoffrion.



Thomas Hart Benton, *First Crop*, 1944. Gouache on paper, 21 x 29 3/4 inches (53.3 x 75.6 cm). Collection of the Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University, Durham, NC, USA. Bequest of Louise and Alvin Myerberg, 2010.3.1. ©T.H. Benton and R.P. Benton Testamentary Trusts / UMB Bank Trustee / Licensed by VAGA, New York, NY. Photo by Peter Paul Geoffrion.