



SKETCHING

Length

1 hour 30 minutes

Introduction	30 minutes
Sketching	35 minutes
Conclusion	20 minutes

Curriculum Connections

Art Reflection, Depiction, Compositions, Expression, Drawings, Encounters

Science
Grade Four Topic E
Grade Seven Topic B

Social Studies
Grade ?? 4.1.1 / 4.2 / 5.1.1 / 5.2.7 / 7.2.5

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

1. Students will examine works of art from an important Artist in Fort Calgary's history.
2. Students will learn a variety of techniques to enhance their sketching skills.
3. Artifacts and local landscapes will be examined and observed as students used their newly acquired skills to explore them.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Students will arrive and be greeted by a Fort Calgary facilitator. They will be introduced to Fort Calgary and Mounted Police artist R. B Nevitt. Students will examine pieces of art created by this artist. Students will practice some basic sketching techniques with the facilitator including organic vs. geometric lines, gradients and textures. Using these techniques, the facilitator will guide the students through creative sketching exercises such as gesture drawings and blind contours. Following the introduction, students will also be able to spend time in the learning center sketching still life drawings using displays created with artifacts from Fort Calgary's collection.

SPRING/FALL: The students will spend time on the fields surrounding the museum building to sketch our unique city views under the guidance of the facilitators. Skills learned in the introduction will be emphasized to enhance sketches of the surrounding areas. If available, students may be able to view the Fort Calgary garden and seek inspiration from the many varieties of flora grown within the garden. Time spent outside of the museum is weather permitting only.

WINTER: Students will be led through the museum area with a brief discussion about each exhibit. They will then choose an exhibit of interests and spend a dedicated length of time to sketch under the guidance and encouragement of the facilitator, using the exhibits and artifacts for inspiration. (This is the backup option in spring/fall in case of inclement weather.)

At the end of the allotted sketching time, students will gather together and briefly share their sketches, the techniques they used and the reason they chose to draw that particular subject.

PREPARING YOUR CLASS

1. Discuss various sketching techniques appropriate to your grade level with students. What are the pros & cons of these techniques?
2. In small groups, have students critically examine works of art of your choosing– what is going on in this piece? What techniques did the artist choose to use? Why? What is the message you get from this piece? What materials did the artist use to create their art?
3. Practice sketching still-life items if you know students haven't done so before.

VOCABULARY

Artifact – any object manufactured, modified or deliberately shaped by humans. Includes tools, weapons, ceremonial items, art objects, garbage, clothing and all food remains

Artist – a person that creates art

Flora – the plants of a particular region, habitat, or geological period.

Fort Calgary – the birthplace of the city of Calgary, and the original location of the North West Mounted Police fort built at the confluence of the Bow and Elbow Rivers in 1875

Geometric lines – have regularity and hard or sharp edges. True geometric lines are rarely found in nature, but often found in man-made constructions. They convey a sense of order, conformity, and reliability

Gradient – visual technique of gradually transitioning from one color hue to another, or from one shade to another

Highlights – an illuminated spot on an object located on a surface where the light rays hit the object

Shading – used in drawing for depicting levels of darkness on paper by applying media more densely or with a darker shade for darker areas, and less densely or with a lighter shade for lighter areas

Landscape – a section or expanse of scenery, usually extensive, that can be seen from a single viewpoint

Medium – refers to the materials that are used to create a work of art. The plural of medium is media

North-West Mounted Police – a police force established in 1873 to maintain colonial law and order in the newly acquired North West Territories

Organic lines – the types of lines found in nature. They are irregular, curved, and often fluid. They convey a sense of gracefulness, dynamism, and spontaneity

Texture – the tactile quality of the surface of an object, how it feels if touched