

“Dino Details”

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Grade 4

Core Concept/Visual Arts/Language Arts

Objective: Students will map out and create a new dinosaur using clay. *This does not include time spent drying and firing the clay.

Grade 4 Core Curriculum Visual Arts Standard 1 Making:

The student will explore and refine the application of media, techniques, and artistic processes.

Objective 1: Explore a variety of art material while learning new techniques and processes

Time: 45 minutes

Equipment and Materials needed:

Drawing paper, pencils, clay, rolling pins, mats to cover desks, clay tools (plastic forks and knives), spray bottle or sponges to wet clay

Introduction:

They will spend the first period creating and drawing their dinosaur down on paper. It must be a dinosaur of their own invention. They need to be able to explain the features of their dinosaur and how it helped the dinosaur survive. Students should previously learned about features of certain dinosaurs that let us know what they looked like and what they ate. For example, a plant-eating dinosaur would have flat teeth and a meat-eating dinosaur would have sharp teeth.

The students will spend the second period turning their drawings into clay works of art. The features that they created on their paper must be transferred to the clay. Have them add texture, like skin, to their dinosaurs. Dry the clay and then fire in the kiln. You can take this further by letting the kids paint their clay to add color.

Extension: Have the students give oral/written reports explaining their dinosaur. What is its name? What does it eat? Where does it live? What features does it have for protection?