



“Dino Details”

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Grade 4

Science/Language Arts/Visual Arts

Science

Standard 4.1.1 Construct an explanation from evidence that plants and animals have internal and external structures that function to support survival, growth, behavior, and reproduction. Emphasize how structures support an organism’s survival in its environment and how internal and external structures of plants and animals vary within the same and across multiple Utah environments.

Standard 4.1.3 Analyze and interpret data from fossils to provide evidence of the stability and change in organisms and environments from long ago. Emphasize using the structures of fossils to make inferences about ancient organisms.

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

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

Lesson

The students will spend the first period creating and drawing their dinosaur down on paper. It must be a dinosaur of his or her own invention. They need to be able to explain the features of their dinosaur and how it helped the dinosaur survive. Students should have 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?

Language Arts

Reading: Literature Standard 3

Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text

Visual Art

Standard 4.V.CR.1:

Brainstorm multiple approaches to a creative art or design problem.

Standard 4.V.CR.3:

Explore and invent art-making techniques and approaches by utilizing and caring for materials, tools, and equipment in a manner that prevents danger to oneself and others when making art, and by documenting, describing, and representing regional constructed environments.