



Academic Resources for Teachers & Students

**Illuminations of
Africa's Wildlife: Its
Beauty, Its Struggle
to Survive**

01.21.16 + 04.24.16

K-5

kimballartcenter



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Lesson Overview

Lesson Plans

Designed to extend and enhance the learning experience of our exhibits while linking to core curriculum subject matter.

Lesson Objectives

- To identify items that can be recycled/reused.
- To identify natural items that can be used to build a shelter for a small toy.
- Build a shelter out of recycled natural materials for a small toy.
- Understand the environmental impact of items such as plastic, bottle caps etc. on the land, animals, air, water etc.
- Discover relationships between the environment and their creations.
- Art as activism
- Understand form, shape and composition

Core Curriculum Tie-Ins

Kindergarten through Fifth Grades: Visual Art, Language Arts and Social Studies

Lesson Overview

On the ARTS tour, students will learn about the work of Beverly and Dereck Joubert, and their call to action through their profound and beautiful photography of endangered animals. This lesson extends that learning and explores how we can increase awareness and appreciation of our environment by creating a home out of natural and recycled materials for a small toy. This will showcase impact on our environment as well as use, and misuse of materials.

Length Of Lesson: One to Three Class Sessions

Supplies

- Natural items found outside
- Recycled materials such as plastic, bottle caps, cartons, paper, magazines, etc.
- Glue, hot glue guns
- Student drawing paper
- Markers/crayons/colored pencils/drawing pencils
- Bristol board for placement of art creations

Illuminations of Africa's Wildlife: Its Beauty, Its Struggle to Survive

Exhibition Overview

Beverly Joubert's work is a call to action. Big cats, rhinoceros, and elephants are in crisis, facing extinction after years of rampant poaching and habitat loss. As artists, conservationists, and National Geographic Explorers-in-Residence, Beverly and her husband, Dereck Joubert, have spent decades fighting for these beloved creatures. Through their internationally renowned wildlife films and other conservation efforts, the Jouberts celebrate the stunning beauty and power of these animals, urging viewers to recognize the consequences of inaction.

With stories of this fight for survival, Beverly Joubert's photographs demonstrate the artist's deep compassion for her subjects. Her work at the Kimball Art Center is accompanied by thoughts, lessons, and illuminations by the Jouberts of their 30 year journey with some of the world's most remarkable wildlife.

Lesson Plan

- Discuss the concept of shelter and the sorts of things that can provide shelter. Encourage conversations about both natural and man made shelters like trees, caves and man made shelters such as homes, tents etc. Ask what kinds of conditions can we shelter from like wind, rain, snow, etc.
- Talk about materials that can be recycled such as plastic, paper, foil, etc. and have examples to show. Discuss how these materials can be included in a shelter and what kind of uses they provide. Also show examples of what happens when we dont take care of these items and the impact it has on our land, animals etc.
- Each child selects a small toy for which they are going to build a shelter.
- On paper, have students sketch out a plan of the shelter that would protect and hold their toy. Encourage labeling their ideas such as twigs for floor, leaves for window covering, stilts to keep the house dry if there is flooding, bottle caps for doors, plastic for doors etc. Provide photographs of both natural and man made shelters.
- Have students share their drawings and ideas with one another. Revise drawings as needed.
- If possible, walk to a park or natural area to gather materials. Also walking around the school grounds students may find the materials they need. Invite students to bring items from home such as shells, seeds, stones, etc.
- Begin assemblage of art. Experiment and gather more items from the school grounds as needed. Students arrange items and may need help with glue guns from parents and teachers. Talk to students about the form, shape and composition of their shelter. Ensure that both natural and man made recyclables are used in their creation.
- Ask questions about how to make structure stronger, what keeps it from falling over, how does using natural and recycled materials affect the environment and the environment where the toy lives.
- Allow time for students to share their shelters, discuss their designs and materials used. Encourage each to assess their projects as well as ask questions of their fellow students
- Display shelters with toys outside in natural setting, take photos and invite other classmates to view the creations.

Lesson Plan Continued

Lesson Extension

- Have students write about their project and describe why they used the materials they did. Have them describe what they learned about recycling materials and how recycling matters
- Have students start a recycling program at their school for plastic, paper etc.
- Display the pictures of the shelters students created at school along with written descriptions.

Resources:

www.kinderart.com

Books on Amazon.com

- Recycled Crafts Box
- Recycled Re-Seen: Folk Art from the Global Scrap Heap

www.wildlifefilms.com

www.ted.com/talks/beverly_dereck_joubert_life_lessons_from_big_cats

www.bigcatinitiative.com

Vocabulary

Shelter - A place giving temporary protection from bad weather or danger.

Environmental Art

- Informs and interprets nature and its processes, or educates us about environmental problems
- Is concerned with environmental forces and materials, creating artworks affected or powered by wind, water, lightning, even earthquakes
- Re-envision our relationship to nature, proposing new ways for us to co-exist with our environment
- Reclaims and remediates damaged environments, restoring ecosystems in artistic and often aesthetic ways

Environmental issues - Are harmful effects of human activity on the biophysical environment.

Environmentalism - A social and environmental movement, addresses environmental issues through advocacy, education and activism.

Form - The visible shape or configuration of something.

Shape - The external form or appearance characteristic of someone or something; the outline of an area or figure.

Composition - The placement or arrangement of visual elements or ingredients in a work of art, as distinct from the subject of a work.

Conservation - The action of conserving something, in particular. Preservation, protection, or restoration of the natural environment, natural ecosystems, vegetation, and wildlife.