



ART APPREC ACTIVITY – JAPANESE LANDSCAPE PRINTS

Sixth Graders create three-color landscape block prints. They start the unit reading about Japanese landscape prints Lesson 23 "Adventures in Art 6" Laura Chapman, Davis Publications and Japanese Prints pp 16 &17 "The History of Printmaking" Scholastic Inc. Students analyze and interpret "The Great Wave Off Kanagawa" by Hokusai. Then they create their own prints of landscape scenes that have special personal meaning (childhood memory, family vacation, favorite get-away spot, etc.) While working through several steps to complete the printmaking process, they work on haiku poems expressing their feelings about the scene. When prints and poems are complete, we enrich the experience with this art apprec activity!

Use two postcard books of Hokusai landscape prints (British Museum). Select and remove 20 prints from each book. You should have 20 *pairs* making a total of 40 cards. Arrange them facedown in 5 rows of 8. (Do one such card game at each worktable.) Students play the game Memory with the cards, keeping pairs as they find them. Encourage students to look for Mt. Fuji in each print. At the end, students earn a ticket for every pair they find. We gave a bonus ticket for finding The Great Wave Off Kanagawa! Tickets are collected in a bag & one is drawn at random for a prize.

Students use their knowledge of design elements (25) printmaking process (26) and art history/culture (27) with this fun activity! Many students even "cheat" by reading the print descriptions on the backs of the postcards!