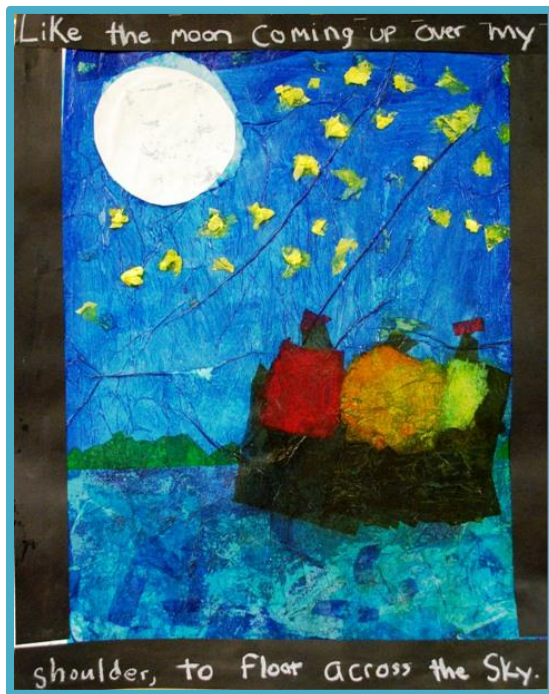


The Road to Freedom

Illustrating the Underground Railroad



Grades K-8

Art ✎ Language Arts ✎ History

A FunArtLessons.com Integrated Art Activity

The Road to Freedom

Lesson Activities

1. Read aloud a book about the Underground Railroad.
2. Discuss the various stages of the underground railroad which might include the following:
 - a. Singing 'secret' songs during work
 - b. Crossing a river
 - c. Finding a safe house
 - d. Running from the slave catchers
 - e. Hiding in a wagon
 - f. Using stars to navigate
 - g. Reaching freedom
3. Students work in groups of 2-4 to select a scene to illustrate.
 - a. Make sure scenes selected tell the story.
 - b. Encourage a unique vision of each scene.
4. Demonstrate the process of working with the tissue and glue.
 - a. Brush a thin layer of white glue mixture on the paper.
 - b. Place large sheets of tissue to create the background and fore ground into the glue
 - c. Brush glue mixture on top of the tissue.
 - d. Allow the tissue to fold and wrinkle as you brush.
5. Cut or tear shapes to form landscape details. Brush glue mixture on each piece of tissue.
6. Mount pictures on dark poster board. Write book text or student created captions in white oil pastel or chalk on the picture frame. Hang the exhibit. Invite classes.



Read Aloud Titles

"Follow the Drinking Gourd"

by Jeanette Winter

"Under the Quilt of Night"

by Deborah Hopkinson

"Barefoot"

by Pamela Edwards

Art Materials

- Craft tissue in a variety of colors
- White glue thinned with water 2:1
- Heavy duty white paper or tag board, large
- 2"-4" craft brushes
- Newspaper to cover work surfaces