

## REASOR, COLLEEN

### LESSON OBJECTIVE(S):

- Students will compare/contrast the works of naturalist artists Thomas Cole and John James Audubon.
- Students will identify the contributions of both artists in the field of art and produce a work of art inspired by John James Audubon's *American Flamingo*.

### MATERIALS:

1. John James Audubon, *American Flamingo*, 1838 (6A)
2. Thomas Cole, *View from Mount Holyoke, Northampton, Massachusetts, after a Thunderstorm—The Oxbow*, 1836
3. Oil Cloth Painting/Tapestry Supplies
  - a. Canvas, precut to approximately 30"x28" for each student
  - b. Gesso to prep canvas
  - c. Acrylic paint of various colors
  - d. Gel gloss medium (one coat applied to finished painting; can also mix the medium in paint)
  - e. Painting brushes of various sizes which should include larger brushes for applying gesso and gel medium
  - f. Painting palettes with lids (or paper plates with plastic in order to save mixed colors)
  - g. Black duct tape for finishing edges of paintings or bias tape and fabric glue (can also sew bias tape if have access to sewing machines, etc.)
4. Linoleum Print Supplies
  - a. 12"x14" linoleum for each student (can vary this size)
  - b. 18"x18" precut paper for each student (can vary size)
  - c. Various colored tissue paper (for collaged print)
  - d. Linoleum cutting tools with various size blades
  - e. Various colored water soluble printers ink
  - f. Ink retarder
  - g. Brayers
  - h. Old lunch room trays or similar objects for mixing and rolling inks

### PROCEDURES:

1. Lead class in supported observation, interpretation and speculation while observing various works by both artists.

2. Students analyzed the artists' use of various Elements of Art and Principles of Design in these paintings.
3. Students also compared and contrasted the artists. For example, both artists were immigrants and both were self-taught, Thomas Cole believed in the human quality of trees whereas John James Audubon set out to paint the birds of North America, placing them in their natural habitats and depicting their natural behaviors through a more life-like depiction.
4. After discussion, the class will either produce an acrylic oil cloth painting/tapestry or linoleum prints inspired by *American Flamingo*.

**Assessment:**

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- Created "large" image of flamingo using Audubon's *American Flamingo* and props as inspiration \_\_\_\_\_
- Creative/successful use of negative space \_\_\_\_\_
- Overall craftsmanship \_\_\_\_\_
- Completed by due date \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_