



Black Disabled Art History Lesson Plan



Lesson title: Black Disabled Art History

Subject and topic:

history and art

Grade level:

7 - 12

Duration:

2 class periods

Lesson summary:

Students will select a Black Disabled artist from Leroy Moore's Black Disabled Art History 101. Students will research their selected artist and their works. Students will choose a piece of artwork created by this artist and analyze it using a critical artistic framework. This lesson can be adapted for a wide range of ages.

Standards:

- CC 9.2.8.A. Explain the historical, cultural and social context of an individual work in the arts.
- CC. 9.2.8.D. Analyze a work of art from its historical and cultural perspective.
- CC. 9.2.8. L. Identify, explain and analyze common themes, forms and techniques from works in the arts.
- CC. 9. 3.8 A. Know and use the critical process of the examination of works in the arts and humanities.
- CC. 9.3.8. D. Evaluate works in the arts and humanities using a complex vocabulary of critical response.
- CC. 9.4.12.B. Describe and analyze the effects that works in the arts have on groups, individuals and the culture



- CC. 15.3.8.H. Deliver presentations using a variety of techniques and media; employ conventions of language.

Objectives:

- SWBAT research and present information on a black disabled person.
- SWBAT discusses the person's contributions to society.

Essential Questions:

- EQ1: What has my person contributed to society?

Vocabulary:

- Black History
- Disability History
- Art History
- Art, Music
- Theatre
- Analysis
- Research

Materials:

- Black Disabled Art History 101 by Leroy Moore
- access to computers if possible.

Lesson Prep:

Please secure space in the library or computer lab for your students to have access to computers for research.



Procedure:

*Note: This lesson plan is meant to be adaptable for a wide variety of ages. It may be necessary to change certain aspects of the lesson plan or the assignment handout in order to make it appropriate for your class level. You know your students and their abilities best, so use your best judgement!

Class Session #1

Read Leroy Moore's introduction aloud. Point out any vocabulary that may be unfamiliar as you go. Define disability if necessary for your classroom. After you finish reading the introduction, ask the class: why does Leroy Moore say it is important to learn about Black Disabled artists specifically?

Tell the class that today we will be starting a project to learn about Black Disabled artists from the past and present. Pass the book around the class so that students can flip through the pages.

Hand out the Assignment Sheet (**Appendix A**). Walk the class through the instructions and answer any questions they may have.

This project can be completed individually or in groups. If you wish for the students to work in groups, take this time to assign students to a group.

Next, match students to their artist. You may allow students to pick who they wish to study or assign it to them. The list of artists can be found in the Table of Contents of Black Disabled Art History 101 or in **Appendix B**. You may decide to limit your students to only one section of the book. For example, if you are a music teacher, you may limit them to only musicians. If you are teaching a visual arts class, you may limit them to only visual artists.



Allow the students the rest of the class period to use computers to begin researching their artists. **Please note:** It may be difficult for your students to find information about some of these artists in the library, as, unfortunately, many of these artists have been ignored due to their skin color and their disability. For students studying these artists, the internet will be a valuable tool.

The rest of the project can be completed either in class or as homework. If assigned as homework, please allow the students at least one week to complete the assignment before presenting.

Class Session #2

This class session should be dedicated to student's having the opportunity to share what they learned in class. You can do this in a traditional presentation format, group share, a gallery walk, or another method. It is up to you- you know your students' needs best!

Related materials:

- Documents below

Evaluation:

Ask your students this question related to this lesson to gauge how much they learned. **Did this lesson help you understand how important it is to learn about Black disabled artists?**

Thank you for bringing the conversation about disability into your classroom. Help us evaluate this lesson plan by visiting [our evaluation page to assess this lesson.](#)

Appendix A: Assignment: Black Disabled Art History



Assignment:

- ❖ To research the life of a African American Artist with a disability
- ❖ To analyze a piece of artwork created by this artist
- ❖ To present your research and analysis to the class

Step 1: Select an artist.

My artist's name is _____.

Step 2: Research the life of this artist.

Use the library and the internet to find out information about your artist.

Guiding Questions:

Where did this person live?

When did this person live?

What was it like to be a Black Disabled person in that time period?

What important events or circumstances occurred in this person's life?

What kind of artwork did they create?

Step 3: Select and analyze a piece of artwork created by this artist.

This can be a poem, a drawing, a song, a dance, a movie clip, or any other type of artwork.



Use the critical process to analyze this piece of artwork.

Guiding Questions

What **materials** did the artist use?

What **techniques** did the artist use to create this artwork?

What **style** of art does this piece belong to?

What **time period** is this work from?

What is the **subject** of this piece?

How is the **artist's life** reflected in this artwork?

What cultures does this person belong to? How does this artist's **cultural perspective** influence their art?

What **message** is the artist communicating with this piece?

What do **you** think of this piece of artwork? How do you think **other people** might have responded to it?

Step 4: Present

Please create a poster or powerpoint presentation to present to the class. Your presentation should include:

- ❖ A short biography of your artist along with examples of art they produced
- ❖ A copy of the artwork you selected for analysis
- ❖ Your analysis of the artwork.

Presentations will take place on _____.

Good luck and have fun!



Appendix B: A (Non-Comprehensive) List of Black Disabled Artists

Visual Artists

Horace Pippin

Charles Curtis Blackwell

Kase2 aka King Kase2

Gerone Spruill

Kiilu Nyasha

Musicians

Albert George “Al” Hibbler

Johnnie Mae Dunson

Joe Capers aka Blind Joe

Celeste White

Rob Da’ Noise Temple

Toni Hickman

Vita E. Cleveland

Dancers

Albert Clemens aka Cripple Clarence Lofton

Antoine Hunter

India Harvielle

The Wild Zappers

Alana Yvonne Wallace

Barak ade Soleil



Actors & Actresses

Lee Williams

Michelle Banks

Lynn Manning

Kei-Arie "Cookie" Tatum

