



Trading Places: Collages of Alabama Historic Sites

Target grade: 5th

Length: 2 to 3 - 30 minute sessions

Enduring Understanding: Through artmaking, people make meaning by investigating and developing awareness of perceptions, knowledge, and experience.

Essential Question: How does the use of maps and collage techniques help attune people to their surroundings?



Objective: Students will use line, shape, color, and patterns and collage techniques to create images depicting historical Alabama places and locations of personal interest.

Arts discipline: Visual Arts

Standards:

Alabama Anchor Standards 10: Synthesize and relate knowledge to personal experience to make art.

Creating 3 - Communicate ideas and images of historical places and places of interest in Alabama through the use of collage techniques and utilizing elements of art (line, shape, color) and principles of design (patterns, variety).

Creating 5 - Identify, describe, and visually document places of personal significance.

Non-arts discipline: Social studies; math

Standards:

Soc Sci. 5.1.1 - locate important geographical features;

Soc Sci. 5.12 - identify sites important to the Civil War (confederate capital) and the modern Civil Rights Movement

M.5.3.1 - construct repeating patterns

M.5.15.1 - practice scaling parts of a drawing

M.5.25. 2 & 3 - recognize and draw examples of quadrilaterals

Materials and supplies:

- Drawing paper (unlined index cards are good to use)
- Pencils and erasers
- Rulers
- Glue sticks
- Scissors
- Alabama maps
- Images of historical places and places of interest in Alabama
- Blank artist trading cards
- Watercolor pencils
- Thin Sharpie markers

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Prerequisite knowledge arts:

- know how to use line variety to create patterns
- know how to create different geometric shapes, including quadrilaterals

Prerequisite knowledge – non-arts:

- introduce historical places in Alabama, such as those related to the Civil War & the modern Civil Rights Movement
- discuss important geographical features in Alabama including major ports, rivers, mountains, etc. (maps to download and print on www.nationalgeographic.org/maps/alabama-tabletop-map)
- identify quadrilateral shapes
- discuss scaling part of a drawing to make a shape that is 1/3 to 1/2 the size of the whole image

Arts vocabulary addressed:

line, color, shape, pattern, variety, unity, background, collage

Non-arts vocabulary addressed:

geographical features, Alabama Bicentennial (on Dec. 14, 1819, Alabama became the 22nd state in the U.S.), Civil War, Confederate capital; modern Civil Rights Movement; quadrilaterals, fractions, scaling

Introduction:

Discuss artist trading cards and the *Trading Places* project in relation to the 2017 Alabama Bicentennial theme of Places.

Sequence of activities:

1. Look at images of historical Alabama places, important locations and geographical features in your area of the state.
2. Cut out a section of an Alabama map that is the same size as the trading card.
3. Glue the map section to a blank trading card to create the background.
4. Use a ruler to measure the size of another blank trading card (2.5 x 3.5 inches).
5. On the blank card, draw geometric shapes, including at least 1 quadrilateral shape, that are no larger than 1/4 to 1/2 the size of the blank trading card. To help determine the scale of the drawings, fold the blank card in half and then in half again and measure with a ruler.
6. Draw images of historical or important places in your area (or symbols representing characteristics of your region) inside the drawn quadrilateral and other geometrical shapes.
7. Use thin Sharpie markers, colored pencils, or watercolor pencils to color the shapes and images.
8. Cut out the colored shapes and glue them on top of the trading card with the map background.
9. Add other shapes, colors and patterns with markers to unify the images on the trading card.
10. Fill out a name label and glue it to the back of your trading card.

Fun Variations to Try:

- Add symbols and images to the card that describe different aspects or features of Alabama, such as musical notes & instruments (Muscle Shoals); plants & animals found in state wildlife refuge; etc.
- Use patterned paper (i.e. Roylco patterned craft paper) to cut out and collage on the card.
- Consult the online Encyclopedia of Alabama for more content.

