



## SENEGAL-AMERICA PROJECT LESSON PLAN



<b>AUTHOR:</b> Zan Lombardo	<b>GRADE LEVEL:</b> Middle School
<b>SUBJECT:</b> Art	<b>DATE:</b> December 13, 2005
<b>TOPIC:</b> Mudcloth (Bogolanfini)	
<b>ESSENTIAL QUESTION:</b> What do the designs in mudcloth represent about the culture of Mali, West Africa? How have the mudcloth designs been used by traditional and contemporary artists?	
<b>PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE:</b> After interacting with the Discovering Mudcloth website, the students will collaborate in small groups to create large versions of Bogolanfini using paper, crayons and watercolor.	
<b>THINKING SKILLS:</b> CR-8 Students will learn to understand that a creative process is as important as a creative product. CR-1 Students will learn to generate many diverse solutions to presented and found problems. T-9 Students will learn to express ideas, exchange information, and collaborate with others in a learning community.	
<b>LESSON CONTENT:</b> <b>Cognitive</b> —1. Students will navigate the Discovering Mudcloth website to learn about the artist, the designer and the painter and will follow step-by-step instructions to make their own virtual Bogolanfini. 2. Students will make aesthetic decisions while designing a large version of Bogolanfini as part of a community group. <b>Psychomotor</b> —3. Students will learn to communicate non-verbally with their small community groups in order to design a large Bogolanfini. 4. Students will measure, draw, color in, and paint on a large Bogolanfini. <b>Affective</b> —5. Students will make choices based upon emotional responses to the many symbols used in mudcloth. 6. Students will learn to collaborate cooperatively with a small community group to accomplish a large result that could not be achieved alone within the given time frame.	
<b>PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMIC STANDARDS FOR THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES:</b> 1.B. Know and use a variety of appropriate arts elements and principles to produce review and revise original works in the arts. 1.E. Know and demonstrate how arts can communicate experiences, stories or emotions through the production of works in the arts. 1.J. Apply traditional and contemporary technologies for producing works of art. 1.K. Apply traditional and contemporary technology in furthering knowledge and understanding in the humanities. 2.G. Relate works in the arts to geographic regions. (Mali, West Africa)	

## **INSTRUCTIONAL PROCEDURES:**

1. Using a Smart Board or a computer lab, have students explore the Discovering Mudcloth website by going to [http://www.mnh.si.edu/africanvoices/mudcloth/index\\_flash.html](http://www.mnh.si.edu/africanvoices/mudcloth/index_flash.html). (Print out packets of the various steps from the "Make Your Bogolanfini" interactive portion of the site in advance of Step 2.)
2. Put students into small groups of 4 to 8. Each group will have a separate workspace, a large sheet of white or light colored paper at least 36" x 48", pencils, erasers, Bogolanfini packets and rulers and/or yardsticks.
3. IN SILENCE, have groups measure, draw and fill in the designs using the drawing tools and packets. Only non-verbal communication should be used to complete this part of the project, such as hand gestures, mouthing words, sign language, eye contact, body language, written words and pictures. This technique creates a more respectful and cooperative atmosphere and gives quiet students and English Language Learners a chance to have input equal to talkative students who might otherwise dominate the group. Students can assume responsibilities for different sections of the group's mudcloth design.
4. Using white crayons, students then color in the designs, taking care to notice what should be colored in white and what should be left blank where the paint will later soak into the paper. Press firmly with the crayons to build up a waxy surface that will resist the watercolor in Step 5.
5. After all the coloring is done, paint over the crayon design with dark brown/black watercolor using large 2"-3" brushes. If paint is too thick and covers up the crayon, the surface of the paper can be gently wiped with a soft, damp sponge.

## **EVALUATION PROCEDURES:**

Self Evaluation Rubric

Presentations to share and explain the groups' processes and results

Teacher observation of process and product

## **MATERIALS AND AIDS:**

- Computers with internet accessibility or Smart Board
- Printed out packets from the "Make Your Bogolanfini" section of the Discovering Mudcloth website
- White or light colored roll paper (60 lb weight or thicker)
- Rulers and yardsticks
- Pencils and erasers
- White crayons
- Brown and black watercolor and water cups
- Large paintbrushes 2"-3" wide
- Aprons