

Lesson Plan Title: Paint a Hero

Grade Level(s): 5th through 8th Grade

Field of Specialization: Visual Art

Duration: 45 minutes to an hour

Objectives:

Vocabulary:

Materials:

Procedures: The instructor will ask one student to read the following stanzas of the Paul Laurence Dunbar poem, "Frederick Douglass."

Through good and ill report he cleaved his way.
Right onward, with his face set toward the heights,
Nor feared to face the foeman's dread array,--
The lash of scorn, the sting of petty spites.
He dared the lightning in the lightning's track,
And answered thunder with his thunder back.

...

No miser in the good he held was he,--
His kindness followed his horizon's rim.
His heart, his talents, and his hands were free
To all who truly needed aught of him.
Where poverty and ignorance were rife,
He gave his bounty as he gave his life.

The place and cause that first aroused his might
Still proved its power until his latest day.
In Freedom's lists and for the aid of Right
Still in the foremost rank he waged the fray;
Wrong lived; his occupation was not gone.
He died in action with his armor on!

If possible, the stanzas should also be projected or written in large format, so that they can be read by the group as well.

The instructor will lead students in a discussion about Frederick Douglass, his accomplishments, and his contributions to American society.

Students will be asked about the visual imagery in the poem, and will brainstorm

ideas for showing these images in a picture.

The instructor will ask students to reflect on modern heroes, and what kinds of contributions they make to society. Students will discuss these ideas as a group.

The instructor will ask students to select their own hero, and try to draw an image that reflects the qualities that

Assessment:

The success of this project can be ascertained through the quality of the artwork. The instructor can also ask a series of questions regarding the objectives of the lesson to determine how well students have comprehended the material.

Alternatively, the rubric below can be used to rate each child's performance during the working period.

Art Rubric		
Category	Possible Points	Points Earned
Craftsmanship	20	
Time On Task	20	
Following Assignment Guidelines	20	
Use of Materials	20	
Clean Up	20	

Adaptations (For Students with Special Needs):

Possible Connections to Academic Subjects:

Resources:

Frederick Douglass: From Slavery to Statesman, by Henry Elliott

Frederick Douglass: A Noble Life, by David Adler