



The Nature of the Bronx

TEACHER RESOURCE GUIDE

The Art of Charles George Esperanza

1ST-3RD GRADE



Nature of the Bronx

The Art of Charles George Esperanza



Lesson Description

Join author and illustrator Charles George Esperanza as we learn how he explores and celebrates the Bronx in his stories and artwork. Then, BxCM Arts Program Manager Chris Gomez will show us how to create our own drawings inspired by Charles' work.

Video Link: www.bronxchildrensmuseum.org/nbx-arts

Age/Grade	7-9 years old; 1st-3rd Grade
Time to complete activity	Total Time: 35-45 minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Before You Watch: 10 minutes</i> • <i>Video Length: approx. 15 minutes</i> • <i>After You Watch: 10-20 minutes</i>
Learning Outcomes	Children will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop skills in composition and drawing. • Develop visual arts vocabulary to describe concepts, the tools, and techniques used to produce an illustration. • Reflect on their personal experiences and how that can inspire creative and imaginative work.
Blueprints for the Arts Standards (2nd Grade)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art-Making: Painting & Drawing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Benchmark: Through an exploration of art materials and techniques, students exercise imagination, construct meanings, and depict their experiences; work in two-dimensional and three-dimensional art forms, use basic art tools, and gain knowledge of media and compositional elements. • Arts Literacy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Benchmark: Students hone observation skills and discuss works of art; develop visual arts vocabulary to describe art making, the tools and techniques used to produce art, and the elements

	and principles of design; read and write about art to reinforce literacy skills; interpret artwork by providing evidence to support assertions; reflect on the process of making art.
Materials	<input type="checkbox"/> paper <input type="checkbox"/> pencil <input type="checkbox"/> eraser <input type="checkbox"/> colored pencils <input type="checkbox"/> Sharpener
Vocabulary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shape: A line or group of lines that come together to make a closed area • Value: how light or dark a color is

Tips for Success

- Watch the film on your own before showing it to children; identify any words or images that may require additional information or explanation.
- Prepare all the materials beforehand, and don't be afraid to substitute for what you have available.
- Stop the video or replay certain moments to allow for questions or comments from the children.

Before You Watch...

Do	<input type="checkbox"/> Make sure each child has their own set of supplies. <input type="checkbox"/> If children are participating remotely, make sure they have all the materials set up at home in advance.
Discuss	<p>Choose a few questions from the list below to ask your children. Keeping your questions open-ended will get your children speaking more and allow them to express themselves more than a simple "yes or no" question. Offer your own answer to the question as a way to model conversation!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What are some really interesting things about yourself that you like to share with new friends?</i> • <i>Who is your favorite cartoon or movie character? Why?</i>
Share	Remind children that doing the project takes time! Watch the video first, and do the project after.
Extend	Read Charles' latest book "Red, Yellow, Blue (and a dash of White, too!)."

After You Watch...

Do	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Children should make a short list of things that interest them and pick three to use as inspiration for their illustration. ❑ Using Charles Esperanza's work as inspiration, children should create an illustration combining their three elements to tell a story. ❑ Encourage children to experiment with the colored pencils, layering them to create new colors and patterns.
Discuss	<p>Select a few questions to ask children about their experiences creating their drawings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>If you could add a fourth idea to this illustration, what would it be?</i> ● <i>What happened when you layered the colored pencils? What new colors did you make?</i> ● <i>What title did you give your illustration and why?</i>
Share	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ask children to explain the process of creating their projects in sequential order: "First I did this...then I did this..." ● Ask children to share their drawings with others (via live meet-ups, Google classroom, FlipGrid, etc.). Encourage each child to give comments on one thing they liked or would like to see more of.
Extend	<p>Create your own classroom gallery to display and have each child write a sentence strip describing their illustration.</p>

Share your Artwork!

Share your class' work with BxCM! Take a picture of your drawings or make a video of the children showing and talking about their work.

Upload your photos here: www.bronxchildrensmuseum.org/artwork-upload.

For more information, contact:

Nicole Wallace, Director of Education at nicole@bronxchildrensmuseum.org.

Funding for Nature of the Bronx was provided in part by the New York State Council on the Arts, with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.