

PROJECT #1

DESERT RUBBINGS



Palm tree bark

These activities give your class the opportunity to create desert inspired art projects that compliment the grade's theme. Initiate class discussions with students regarding their choices and experiences before and after creating the piece. Included is a suggested bulletin board idea for your class to participate in as a group.

MATERIALS:

8 _ x 11 white paper/student
carbon paper
pastel crayons or crayons
pencil or anything flat (used for making the rubbings)
tape

PREP:

Have teacher discuss with class how each plant species have different characteristics.

OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM:

1. Have student's team up; tape a piece of white paper to a tree bark.
2. Using carbon paper or the pastels/crayons rub over bark to create a texture.
3. Experiment by doing rubbings on different types of desert tree barks.
4. Collect desert material, i.e., leaves and seedpods from different plants and rub over them to make impressions.
5. Compare tree textures, leaf structure and seed pod structure as related to each plant species previously discussed in classroom in reference to the Sonoran desert.

PROJECT #2

“COYOTE” SEED HARVESTING & PACKAGING



Coyote template

These activities give your class the opportunity to create desert inspired art projects that compliment the grade's theme. Initiate class discussions with students regarding their choices and experiences before and after creating the piece. Included is a suggested bulletin board idea for your class to participate in as a group.

MATERIALS:

Coyote seed packet template	crayons
1 brown paper lunch bag/ student	“harvested” seeds
Ruler	plastic baggies
Scissors	potting soil
Glue	1 small planting pot/student

PREP:

To get ready for this activity you must do some gardening! Plant wildflower seed in your school garden in October, they will be ready to harvest in late spring/early summer. They can be stored in a dry, airtight container for a year, so they can be used for the school year. If you can't plant a garden of flowers, take a nature walk at home or with your class and find plants that are ready to release seeds and collect.

1. To collect seeds, put a small plastic bag of the top of the flower/ plant and gently close the bag with your hands and shake. The seeds should fall out. Then close bag and repeat with next plant.
2. Prepare template for seed packet.
3. Copy template for coyote picture template.

IN THE CLASSROOM:

1. Use the template for the seed packet and trace it on a brown paper bag.
2. Cut out, fold in half on the dotted line, glue sides together, leaving the top open to place seeds in it.
3. Color coyote template, then glue on the front of seed packet.
4. Divide the seeds up between the members of the class.
5. Put the seeds inside a plastic bag to keep dry, and then place these bags in the seed packets and seal.

PROJECT #3

DESERT FLOWER & LEAF IMPRESSIONS



Poppies

These activities give your class the opportunity to create desert inspired art projects that compliment the grade's theme. Initiate class discussions with students regarding their choices and experiences before and after creating the piece. Included is a suggested bulletin board idea for your class to participate in as a group.

MATERIALS:

desert leaves and flowers
hammer or flat rocks
paper towels
plastic food wrap or wax paper
piece of cotton cloth (white T-shirt or apron)/ student
salt

PREP:

Have students take a nature walk at home or school and collect fresh leaves and colored flowers. If being collected the night before, they will stay fresh in a plastic bag with a little water in it and stored in the refrigerator. Prepare a bucket of salt water. Use 1-cup salt to a couple of gallons of water.

IN THE CLASSROOM:

1. Lay piece of cloth on hard, flat surface.
2. Place a layer of plastic or wax paper, then a layer of paper towels under the top layer of cloth so the leaf or flower color won't soak through the back of the material.
3. Place and arrange colored flowers and leaves on cloth facing them downward, so the back of the plant is facing you. Press gently to make them lay flat. Place a piece of plastic wrap or wax paper on top of leaf or flower and gently hammer the leaf or flower until they are flat. The color should bleed through to the cloth.
4. Take off plastic wrap or waxed paper and any petals or leaves that didn't come off.
5. Soak in salt water for about an hour to make it permanent.

BULLETIN BOARD



Mesquite seed pods

GROUP ACTIVITY OR BULLETIN BOARD IDEA: BUILD A PLANT

Using the plant rubbings from Project #1, Desert Rubbings, cut out the impressions of leaves, stems, seedpods, flowers that the students made. Make a habitat from the Sonoran desert on the bulletin board. On the bulletin board, put the plant parts together and then label the parts of the plant. Have students list the plant part's function and its adaptation.

ARIZONA STATE STANDARDS

Art Standards

Beginning Visual Arts

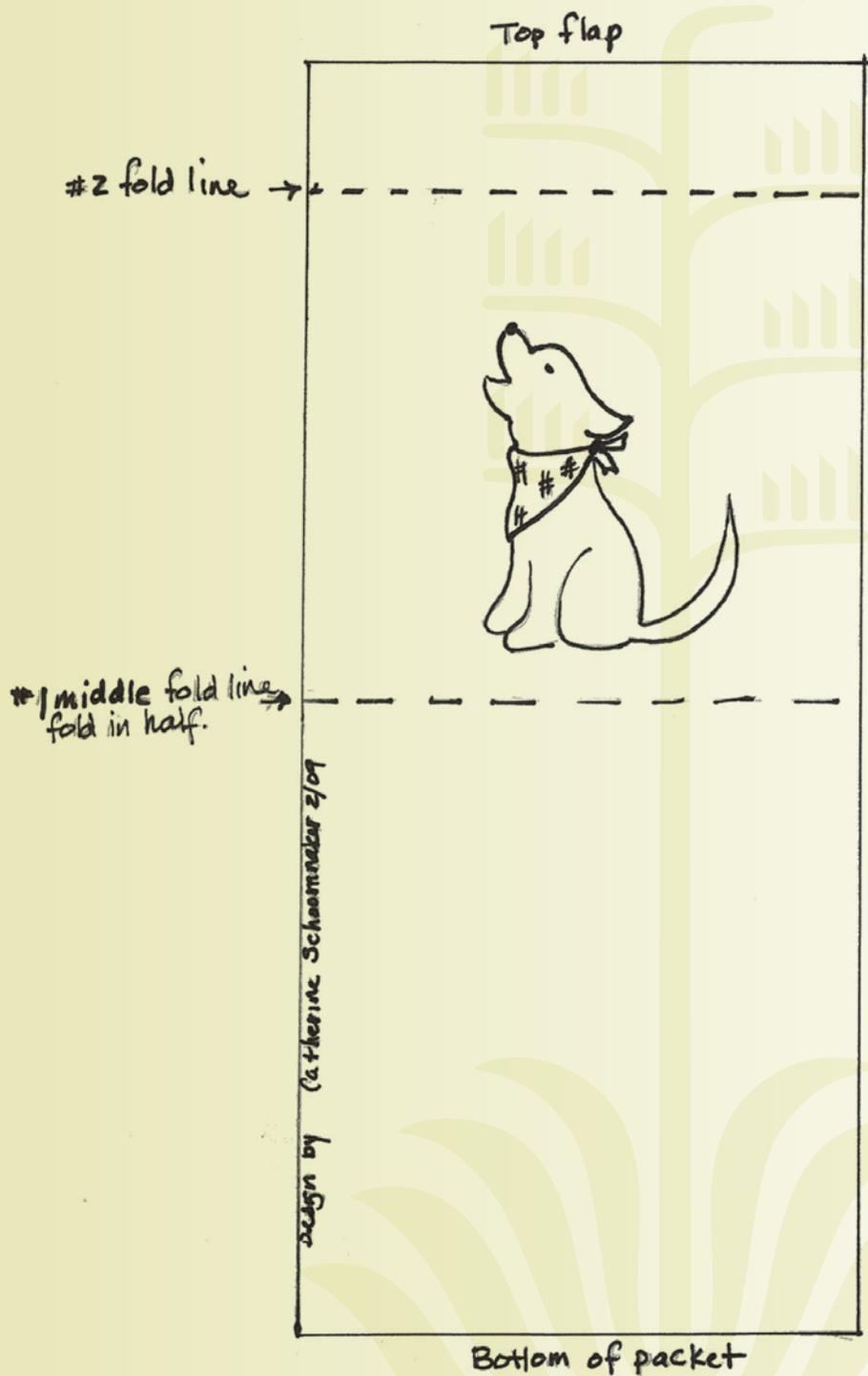
- S1C2: PO 101. Identify and experiment with materials, tools, and techniques in his or own artwork
- S1C2: PO 102. Use materials, tools, and techniques appropriately in his or her own artwork

Science

Life Science

- S4C4: PO 1. Identify adaptations of plants and animals that allow them to live in specific environments.
- S4C4: PO 2. Describe ways that species adapt when introduced into new environments.

TEACHER'S GUIDE FOR THIRD GRADE DESERT INSPIRED ART PROJECTS FOR YOUR CLASSROOM



* Cut out on solid lines. Fold in half on #1 middle fold line up to #2 fold line and glue sides together.

* When ready to close packet with seeds inside glue down top flap.