

ARMORY

Armory Center for the Arts

Grade Levels

3rd - 5th Grade

National Visual Arts Common Core Standards

3.VA:Re7.1

Speculate about processes an artist uses to create a work of art.

3.VA:Cr2.1

Create personally satisfying artwork using a variety of artistic processes and materials.

4.VA:Cn11

Through observation, infer information about time, place, and culture in which a work of art was created.

5.VA:Cr2.3

Identify, describe, and visually document places and/or objects of personal significance.

Virtual Tour Lesson Plan

Weaving a World of My Own

Lesson Goal

Learn how weavings can represent your personal experiences by exploring the art of Tanya Aguiñiga and creating your own masterpieces.

Lesson Objectives

Students will:

- View and discuss a contemporary work of art.
- Complete a series of drawings (including blind contours) and engineer them into a paper weaving.

Materials

- Paper x2
- Scissors
- Pen
- A special object from your home
- Tape
- Coloring tools (optional)

Vocabulary

Represent Weaving Tierra Longitude Latitude

Images

Tanya Aguiñiga. *Tierra*. 2014. Nylon, soil, leather, thread, vinyl. 1 x 86 x 60 in.



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Photos by Ian Byers-Gamber, from the exhibition *Tanya Aguiñiga: Borderlands Within/La Frontera Adentro*. Courtesy Armory Center for the Arts.

Warm Up Discussion

Looking at the art examples from the first page and ask the following questions:

- What do you see?
- What do you think the numbers or words mean on the leather labels?
- Why did Tanya choose these locations?
- If you could touch these white strips, what would it feel like?
- Can you guess what they are filled with?
- What does “tierra” mean?
- If you owned this art work, where would you put it?
- What does this weaving represent?

Additional Resources

- craftinamerica.org/artist/tanya-aguiniga
- art21.org/artist/tanya-aguiniga
- armoryarts.org/borderlands

Art Activity

Combine drawing and engineering skills to create a paper weaving.

Procedure/Steps

1. Prepare the 4 Woven Strips

Make 1 sheet of paper into a square by cutting off a ~1.5 inch strip from the top. Fold the square in half, twice, and use the creases as a guide to cut out 4 strips of paper.

2. Decorate Your Woven Strips

Inspired by Tanya’s weaving, decorate your 4 strips by drawing places that are special to you. Using your memory or imagination make sure to fill up the area with details about your chosen locations, such as things you hear and see.

3. Blind Contour Drawing

- Prep the second sheet by drawing a line 1.5 inches from the top (same size as the cut off piece in step 1). Draw in the square below the line. The page should be oriented in “portrait”.
- During a blind contour you cannot look at your drawing and once you put down your pen you can’t lift it up until you’re finished. Slowly observe your object and try to move the pen at the speed of your eye. Fill the background with more contour drawings or color.

4. Weave

- Construct the strips to weave through by folding your blind contour drawing into quarters like we did earlier (hot dog style). Cut along the creases and stop 1.5 inches from the top (at the line from step 3).
- Weave by lifting up every other blind contour strip, applying tape on the strips that are down, and securing your first decorated strip from step 2. Repeat this pattern, but make sure to alternate the lifted strips in order to create the under-over woven look. Finish with color if desired.

Closure

- Share your artwork with a friend!
- Explain what locations you chose and why your indoor object is special to you.
- What does your weaving represent?