

IDITAROD S-T-R-E-T-C-H-E-D ART

Developed by:

Laura Wright – 2016 Iditarod Teacher on the Trail™

Discipline / Subject:

Art

Topic:

Optical Illusions, art design, and spatial reasoning

Grade Level:

3rd grade – High School

Resources / References / Materials Teacher Needs:

1. Optical Illusion books as a reference for the lesson:
[Xtreme Illusions](#) by National Geographic
[Optical Illusions](#) by DK Publishing
[Magic Eye: A New Way of Looking at the World](#) by Marc Grossman
2. Optical Illusion online sites as a reference for the lesson:
<http://www.optics4kids.org/home/content/illusions/>
<http://kids.niehs.nih.gov/games/illusions/>
3. Iditarod calendars or images from www.iditarod.com
4. White construction paper
5. Art materials: colored pencils, oil pastels, etc.

Lesson Summary:

Students will view and share optical illusions in class from books or online sources, and then use recycled Iditarod calendars to create their own illusions using art design and spatial reasoning.

Standards Addressed:

National Endowment for the Arts:

Find your state in the link below to see your state standards for art instruction:

<https://www.arts.gov/grants/apply-grant/grants-organizations/art-works/arts-education/state-standards-arts-education>

Texas State Standards:

(b) Knowledge and skills

(1) Foundations: observation and perception. The student develops and expands visual literacy skills using critical thinking, imagination, and the senses to observe and explore the world by learning about, understanding, and applying the elements of art, principles of design, and expressive qualities. The student uses what the student sees, knows, and has experienced as sources for examining, understanding, and creating artworks.

(2) Creative expression. The student communicates ideas through original artworks using a variety of media with appropriate skills. The student expresses thoughts and ideas creatively while challenging the imagination, fostering reflective thinking, and developing disciplined effort and progressive problem solving skills. The student is expected to:

- (A) Integrate ideas drawn from life experiences to create original works of art;
- (B) Create compositions using the elements of art and principles of design; and
- (C) Produce drawings; paintings; prints; sculpture, including modeled forms; and other art forms such as ceramics, fiber art, constructions, mixed media, installation art, digital art and media, and photographic imagery using a variety of materials.

Alaska State Standards:

A. A student should be able to create and perform in the arts.

A student who meets the content standard should:

1. 1) Participate in dance, drama, music, visual arts, and creative writing;
2. 2) Refine artistic skills and develop self-discipline through rehearsal, practice, and revision;
3. 3) Appropriately use new and traditional materials, tools, techniques, and processes in the arts;
4. 4) Demonstrate the creativity and imagination necessary for innovative thinking and problem solving;
5. 5) Collaborate with others to create and perform works of art;
6. 6) Integrate two or more art forms to create a work of art

Learning Objectives:

1. Students will learn about optical illusions by exploring books and online sites.
2. Students will recreate optical illusions by cutting up calendar pages into strips, stretching the strips apart on paper, then filling the spaces with connecting art to create a connected image.

Assessment:

1. Students should follow the directions and be neat in their cutting and pasting of the calendar strips.
2. Students should use a pencil first to connect the strips with drawings, then create an illusion in the blank space
3. Students should color their art as accurately as they can to create a uniform image

Procedural Activities

1. The teacher should share books or online sites about optical illusions with the students.
2. Students will create their own optical illusions by recycling old Iditarod calendars and creating new, stretched artwork.
3. The teacher will tear apart old calendars, and let students choose a month or an image they would like to use.
4. Have the students turn it over onto a longer piece of white construction paper, and lay it in the bottom left-hand corner of the page.
5. Use the calendar page as a guide, and draw a line across the top of the white construction paper. Students will cut off the excess at the top and recycle it.
6. Students will cut the calendar page into strips on the vertical lines across the page, and they should number them in order from left to right.
7. Turn the strips over and make sure they are in the correct visual order.
8. Lay the first strip onto the far left side of the paper, and then place the last strip on the far right side of the paper.
9. Students will stretch apart the other strips until they are evenly spaced across the construction paper.
10. Glue down the strips, leaving the blank spaces in between.
11. Use a pencil and fill in the blank spaces so that the images are connected between the calendar strips.
12. Use colored pencils, crayons, or oil pastels to color in the drawings to create the optical illusion that the calendar has been stretched across the page.

Materials Students Need:

1. One month from an out-of-date Iditarod calendar
2. White construction paper
3. Pencil, glue, scissors
4. Art materials: colored pencils, oil pastels, crayons, etc.

Technology Utilized to Enhance Learning:

1. Document camera and computer for online sources
2. Optical Illusion online sites:
<http://www.optics4kids.org/home/content/illusions/>
<http://kids.niehs.nih.gov/games/illusions/>

Other Information:

If you do not have enough calendar pages for each student, print images from the Iditarod site: <http://iditarod.com>

Modifications for Special Learners/ Enrichment Opportunities:**Modified:**

To modify the lesson, move the strips closer together or have students work in partners to complete the illusion.

Enrichment:

To make the activity more challenging, remove extra calendar strips from the paper, so students will have to problem solve at a higher level to complete the illusion.