

Masks Across The Curriculum

How creating First Nations masks crossed the curriculum divide.





Learning Goal

‘Our goal is to create an engaging environment where students collaborate and learn through cross-curricular explorations’.



The Intent

Why are we doing this??

- To bring a deeper understanding to First Nations culture
- To tie in First Nations experiences not only at the time of colonization
- To show how aboriginal culture and belief systems, from the beginning of “man”, have influenced our belief systems and cultures TODAY
- To provide a fun Social Studies experience, but it actually turned into something more...



Why The Masks??

- To bring in First Nations/Aboriginal culture and spirituality as a beginning to our Religions unit
- To provide a hands on experience

Social Studies:



A Visit by Bertha Lansdowne



With Science

- Learned the traditional colours First Nations Cultures used
- How they made paint (plants and earth)
- How they were made to adhere to the wood and to last (fish eggs)
- Students were only allowed to use traditional colours





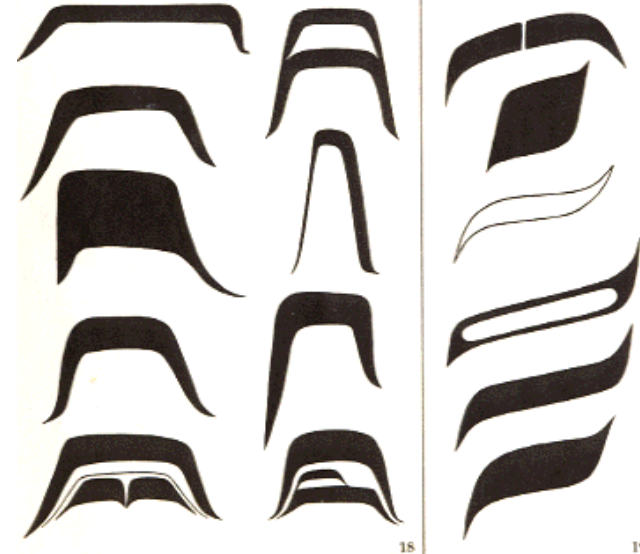
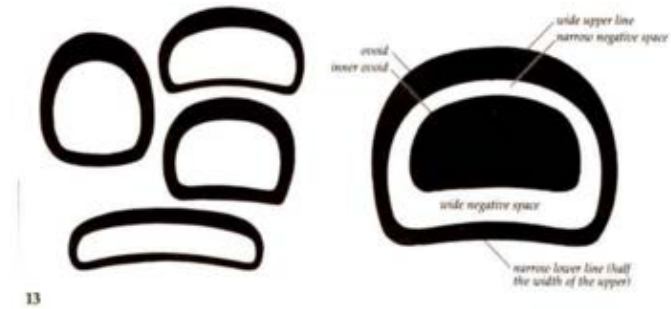
Through Language Arts

- First Nations artwork is a language
- Travelers and visitors were identified by the designs on their canoes, beadwork and other carvings
- Travelers knew where they were based on the totems
- Each family grouping had their own designs
- Story telling (Bertha Lansdowne)



Through Math

- We looked at books on ovoids
- And U shapes
- Symmetry was important
- Had to draw out and design before starting









More Connections

Vancouver Art Gallery



Bringing It To Life

By First Nations tradition in order for a mask to be whole, it needs to be worn and brought to life.





Any Questions??