

Lesson Plan

Teachers are expected to plan meaningful lessons that promote concept development and integrate language and content. In accordance with best practices, lesson plans should incorporate these twelve components.

Class:	Art -5 th	Teacher: Saoud
1. Unit:	Art History: Native People	Date of Lesson:
Topic:	Pottery of Native American People (Toltec/ Plum Bayou People)	
Lesson:	Coil Pottery	Time Required: 1 class period to make pots 1 class period for glazing or painting
2. Enduring Understanding: <i>What are the big ideas that students will understand about this topic?</i>		
In order to cook, eat, and store food, the Plum Bayou People made coil pottery from earth clay using coil pottery methods.		
3. Essential Question(s): <i>What thought-provoking question(s) will guide inquiry and learning?</i>		
Imagine you are a Native American living in the year 1015, one hundred years ago. There are no grocery stores, there is no electricity, and there are no microwaves. How would you cook your food? How would you store your food? What would you eat the food out of? The Plum Bayou people who lived at Toltec Mounds had a few ways to solve these problems. They could use flat stones, they used hollow gourds, and they made pottery from earth clay.		
4. Standards: <i>What content frameworks will be addressed?</i>		
CR.2.5.1, CN.10.5.		
5. Content Objective(s): <i>How will students demonstrate content knowledge?</i>		
Students must follow instructions on building a coil pot in the way of the Plum Bayou people.		
6. Literacy Objective(s): <i>How will students demonstrate reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills?</i>		
Students must show that they can follow the steps to make a coil pot.		
7. Key Vocabulary: <i>What is the essential vocabulary?</i>		
Earth clay Coil Score & Slip Burnish Artifact		
8. Materials required for the lesson:		Resources you will utilize:
Earth clay – .5 to 1 lb. per student Clay mat – 1 per student Stylus – 1 per student A plan for labeling pots (I use a piece of cardboard with a grid on it and each student’s name in a square. They put their pot “on their name”, then I write their name and homeroom on the bottom of the pot.) Decorating tools, such as shells (optional) Spoons for burnishing (optional) Glazes (optional)		**Field trip to Toltec Mounds *Photos of pottery artifacts from Toltec *Handout: Making Coil Pottery Kiln
9. Procedure:		
a. Engagement: <i>What concrete experience will introduce the topic, activate background knowledge and help make a meaningful connection to students’ lives and prior learning? How will students analyze and reflect on this concrete experience?</i>		
**This lesson is designed to be used after a field trip to Toltec Mounds, so if you students haven’t gone to Toltec, show them some photos and give them some information about the mounds. What do you use to hold food? (a cup, a bowl) The people who lived at Toltec Mounds couldn’t go to the store		

and buy bowls and cups. They had to make them. They lived along Mound Lake, so they dug the clay out of the lake bed and used that to make pottery.

b. Presentation: *How will you make the connection between the concrete experience and the new concept, while previewing the topic and emphasizing the key vocabulary? How will you teach the concept?*

The clay that the Plum Bayou people used is the same kind of clay we use today, and we will make our pottery in the same way that they did, as well. (Demonstrate how to make coil pottery – see handout)

c. Practice: *This is where you stop talking! How will students reinforce new knowledge and skill development using reading, writing, listening, and speaking, while interacting with each other? How will students add their own touch to the concept?*

Ask students what the steps are to making their pottery, and have them repeat the steps to you.

d. Application: *What will students do to start applying or doing something with --- their new knowledge in an authentic situation? How will students share their final product?*

Day 1: Each student needs: clay mat; .5 - 1 lb. clay; stylus; spoon for burnishing (optional – if you are not glazing, this is a good way to finish pots); shells to make decorations (optional)

Students should make their coil pot in 30-40 minutes.

10. Plan For Differentiation / Accommodation / Adaptations: *How will you adapt the content, product, or process to meet the needs of all learners? Who is need of additional support? Who is in need of extension? What are your plans to accommodate students?*

Students who need more time will need to wrap their project in a plastic grocery bag.

While circulating, make sure that all students are constructing their pot correctly. Students who are more advanced can add decorations to their pot with shells.

11. Formative / Summative Assessments: *How will you know if students have mastered your objectives?*

During class, formative assessment through observation and questioning will be used to ensure students understand how to build their pottery. Students turn in their pottery that should be made following the directions for summative evaluation. After the project is completed, students will write an artist's statement about their pottery and how it is similar to the pottery of the Plum Bayou people.

12. Home School Connection: *How will families have the opportunity to connect with the learning experience of their child?*

This project will go home with students after completion. Photos will be uploaded to Artsonia for sharing, as well. Families have the option of going to Toltec on their own to learn more about the history of the mounds and the people who used to live there.

Toltec Mounds Archaeological Site

The Toltec Mounds are a group of 18 man-made hills near Scott, AR. They are in the middle of flat farmland on the shore of Mound Lake. The mounds were made by a Native American tribe between A.D. 650 to 1050. The people who built the mounds are gone, so the only information we have about them is from artifacts. The mounds are similar to structures built by the Toltec Indians of Mexico. After decades of farming, most of the mounds have been flattened. Three large mounds and a few smaller mounds remain. Archaeological studies of the site have unearthed pieces of pottery, tools, spear points, arrowheads, and other artifacts, which give us clues to the people who built and used the mounds. We call these people the Plum Bayou people.



In order to store food, cook food, and eat their food, the Plum Bayou people made pottery from the earth clay found in the lake bed. They made coil pots and fired them in deep fire pits to strengthen them. These kiln pits fired the pottery to about 1100 Farenheit. They decorated their pottery with stains made from iron oxide (rust) and crushed shells. They did not have glazes, so in order to give their pottery a more waterproof finish, they burnished the pots by rubbing them with a smooth stone.



Tips for working with clay:

1. Earth clay dries quickly! You can't remix it like playdough or modeling clay. If you don't like the way something looks, it is best to fix it, rather than smashing it and starting over.
2. Your best tool for clay is your hands! The clay doesn't magically do anything by itself. It can only be shaped into something amazing by your hands. You can use your hands to smooth the clay (with your fingertips or the back of your fingernails).
3. Do NOT cover your pottery with slip or water. Ever! I promise it is a bad idea! It will cause cracks and make your pottery very rough.
4. Do not wash clay down the sink! It is very heavy and will clog the sink. Don't throw it away, either! Leftover clay scraps should be kept in a bucket of water to be recycled.

Making a coil pot

1. Begin by breaking off a small piece of clay for the base of your pot. Roll it into a ball, then flatten the ball on a clay mat into a disk about as thick as your pinky finger. This disk will be the bottom of your pot.
2. Break off another piece of clay and roll it into a coil, about as thick as your pinky. To roll an even coil, begin by rolling it between your hands, then put it on the table. Put your hands in the center of the coil, and as you roll, move your hands outward.
3. Put the coil on top of the disk, along the outer edge. To join it to the disk, scrape gently across the coil to blend it to the disk. (smooth downward). While smoothing, put one hand on the outside of the pot to support the clay. Continue adding coils and smoothing them to build your pot.
4. If decorating with shells, carefully press them into the clay. You can also make designs with a stylus.
5. Use a stylus to write your name on your pottery.
6. If burnishing, let the clay get leather hard (let it dry for one day or wrap it in a grocery bag to let it dry slowly), then rub over the clay with the back of a spoon until it is shiny. Don't burnish the pottery if you plan to glaze it.

