

Grades/Level: Lower Elementary (K-2)

Subjects: Visual Arts

Time Required: Unknown

References

Based on curriculum goals from the University of Chicago Laboratory Schools at:

<http://www.ucls.uchicago.edu/academics/>.

Activity Overview

“Who do you want to be when you grow up?” This topic encourages adolescents to self-reflect and to imagine the diverse ways they will contribute to society as adults: at home, at work, within the community and the world.

This activity is a part of Your Art Here’s Billboard Generation IV project. Chosen artwork from grade school through high school winners will be displayed on billboards in Bloomington and Indianapolis in celebration of National Youth Art Month in March 2006.

Learning Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Create an image of things that are important to them. This image should show that they can imagine being an adult and what they think should be important to someone who is an adult.

Materials

- Pencils, crayons, and drawing paper

Lesson Steps

1. Discussion

Ask students to pretend that they are grown-ups and that they have a job and live in a community (like Bloomington or a big city or even in the country).

- What kinds of things will they like to do?
- What will they care about (what will make them happy or sad)?
- What do they think will be important to them when they are older (family, animals, music, neighbors, friends, job)?

Tell the students they are going to draw a “time capsule” of the things they think should be important to them when they are grown-ups living on their own. This drawing will remind them when they are older about what they thought was important.

2. Activity

Have students draw a picture of the things they think should be important to them when they are older or things they think they will like to do as a grown-up. When all the pictures are done, share the drawings with the class and talk about the common themes and what kind of grown-ups the students will be (kind, caring, concerned, fun-loving, etc).