

Grades/level: Upper Elementary (3-5)

Subjects: Visual Arts

Time Required: Unknown – variable

References

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

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

Activity Overview

“Be the Media: What Would You Say?” This topic encourages students to think about the media and how it is used in everyday life. Students will become aware of different forms of media and how they are used to convey information, messages, or ideas to various groups of people.

This activity is part of Your Art Here’s Billboard Generation V project. Chosen artwork from grade school through high school will be displayed on billboards in Bloomington and Indianapolis in celebration of National Youth Art Month in March 2007.

Learning Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Create an image that expresses ideas, information, or messages students wish to communicate to other people. This image should show that students understand the concept of media as a way of transmitting information to various groups of people within a community, nation, or even throughout the world.

Materials

- Pencils, crayons, markers, or paint, and drawing paper

Lesson Steps

1. Discussion

- What is media?
- What are different forms of media? (radio, television, newspaper, billboards...ect)
- How do people receive information from these different kinds of media?
- Who reads, sees, or hears this information?
- What kind of information, messages, or ideas do we get from the media?
- What kind of media do you like or use most often?
- If you could share something with people by way of the media what would it be and what kind of media would you use?

2. Activity

Have students draw a picture of the things they would show or tell people if they were in charge of the media. When the pictures are complete, share the drawings with the class and talk about common themes, what kinds of messages or ideas are shown, and why the student feels the message, image or ideas should be communicated.