

Grades/level: Lower Elementary (K-2)

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 of a message that the student would tell the whole world (like a massive Show and Tell). This image should show that the student can imagine a way of showing or telling people their personal message or idea.

Materials

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

Lesson Steps

1. Discussion

Give examples of media (TV, newspaper/magazine, billboards, radio, Internet, etc)

- (If students show interest or know about different kinds of media, talk about that a little more): Does your family use any of this media (do they watch TV, listen to read newspapers, go on the Internet)? How does your family get news?
- These types of media can reach nearly everyone all over the world - like Show and Tell to everyone in the entire world
- If you could put a message out on this media (do Show and Tell) and the whole world could see it, what would you say?

2. Activity

Have students draw a picture of what they would say if they could tell something to the whole world (what would they Show and Tell?). 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.