



Cà d'Zan Model - Lesson Plan

Lesson Summary

Architecture can be one of the most complex forms of art, and yet it is frequently overlooked in the study of Art History. There are often many separate elements of a structure that are art unto themselves, making careful inspection of both the whole *and* the parts a must.

In this interactive lesson students will write about, study, and sketch architectural elements and then create a structure using the "pieces" they have learned about.

Grade Level

Middle School

Time Needed

- 20 - 30 minutes for Pre-Visit Activity
- 30 - 45 minutes for Cà d'Zan tour/scavenger hunt
- 45 - 60 minutes for Post-Visit project

Objectives

- The student writes to communicate ideas and information effectively.
- The student understands that architecture is an art form that extends throughout all of Art History.
- The student is able to identify different architectural elements and use them to build a replica of the Cà d'Zan.

Sunshine State Standards

- LA.D.2.3.1. Selects language that shapes reactions, perceptions, and beliefs.
- M.A.B.1.3.4. Constructs, interprets, and uses scale drawings... to solve real world problems.
- V.A.A.1.3.4. Creates 2-D and 3-D works of art that reflect competency and craftsmanship
- V.A.D.1.1.3. Understands how an artist's intent plays a crucial role in the aesthetic value of an object.

Materials

- Pencil
- Paper
- Scissors
- Glue
- Legos/blocks
- Magazines

Vocabulary Words

- Architecture
- Arch
- Ogee Arch
- Column
- Capital
- Architect
- Trefoil Arch
- Cable Moulding
- Cresting
- Quoins
- Rondel
- Collage
- Contractor
- Sconce
- Coffin
- Sgraffito
- Tapestry
- Corbel
- Tiffany-style
- French Doors

Notes & Worksheets

- Architectural Scavenger Hunt

Lesson Plan

Pre-Visit: Collages and/or Cinquain Writing

- Have students create an architectural collage. Using magazines to find pictures of windows, doors,

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arches, etc. students should cut out and reassemble the images to create a complete structure. Unity should be conveyed through careful and deliberate use of the elements of art.

- Discuss how elements of architecture can express certain feelings or ideas (strength, calm, pride, etc.).
 - Demonstrate how to write a cinquain poem:
 - Line 1: The subject (a noun)
 - Line 2: 2 descriptive words (adjectives)
 - Line 3: 3 gerunds that describe your thoughts
 - Line 4: A complete sentence that describes your feelings
 - Line 5: Another noun that relates to line 1 (a synonym)
- Example:
Teracotta
Strong, Steady
Holding, Sparkling, Supporting
The heart of Cà d'Zan's mighty walls
Amber bricks
- Have students look at a picture of the Cà d'Zan and write a poem expressing their thoughts and feelings as they gaze at the architecture

Museum Visit: Architectural Scavenger Hunt

- Each student should have a copy of the *Architectural Scavenger Hunt at Cà d'Zan* worksheet. Instruct them to pay close attention to the details of the house as they take their tour. When they see an element listed on their paper they should quickly sketch it in the space provided, making sure to jot down the location and another pertinent information in the margins.

Post-Visit: Building a model of the Cà d'Zan

- Briefly discuss the different roles people play in the construction of a building. Explain the differences between an architect (designer), contractor (supervisor), and construction crew (builders).
- Have the class break up into groups of 4 – 5 and assign each member a job (1 architect, 1 contractor, and 2-3 construction workers). These jobs can be rotated partway through if desired.
- Each group will get a set of building materials. The architect is responsible for choosing the architectural elements that will best recreate a small Cà d'Zan, and sketching a small replica or “blueprint” for reference. The contractor should direct the rest of the crew how to assemble the pieces. They should start with small areas (columns, etc.) and eventually put the pieces together to create a larger structure.
- Photograph each structure, making sure to get typical architectural detail shots.
- Have each group give a short presentation to the class detailing their construction choices.