

Summer 2014, Wacky Tacky Curriculum

Zac Lawhon

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Hey Summer team,

I sent this information to John, and then realized I may as well send it to you too in case the lower school team has any overlap that would be good for collaboration, or anything they might want me to help cover on a certain day. If you want to collaborate, let me know!

I figured the high school and middle school may also want to be in the loop as well, though I'm not sure what kind of interactions we could have. If you have any ideas for LS/MS/HS collaborations, let me know.

Here's a general overview of what I'm planning:

China: We'll be taking a look at calligraphy and brush painting history in China, traditional subject matter versus subject matter that might be painted today, through the lens of contemporary artists Ai Wei Wei and Cai Guo Qiang. We will use traditional tools and non-traditional ideas to create our own style of calligraphy drawing.

Germany: We will begin in Germany by studying the Blue Rider artistic tradition and that art form's relation to dreams and the environment, focusing on Franz Marc. This will tie in to a discussion of Germany's leading role in alternative energy development today, headed by Chancellor Angela Merkel. We will use their leadership as inspiration for creating solar ovens, solar prints, pinwheels, and solar floats depending on student age groups. I'm also wondering: is anyone covering WWII? If you are, because it IS a lot to unpack, is there anything I can do to facilitate that with you?

Peru: Continuing an environmental theme will take us off the coast of Piura in Peru to learn about an artificial reef that is also a statue garden in the making, meant to create a sanctuary for fish and to prevent illegal trawling and overfishing. We will make our own clay sculptures to "add" to this reef. We will end our time in Peru by studying the Spanish and indigenous influences of Claudia Bertolero's fashion design by creating fashion dolls that combine cultures our travelers are familiar with, with some symbols and patterns found in Peruvian textiles.

Very excited to work with you all again this summer!

--Zac