Lesson 6 - Visual Art: Design | 30 minutes

Activity 1: Design A Map

Summary:

Using Salmon Story, students design a simple map that shows where important places and items from the story belong. This activity does not focus on identifying real geographic locations; instead, students practice geographic placement by showing how story elements—people, water, salmon, and tools used for daily life and trade—relate to one another. As they color, cut, and glue, students begin to see how relationships and place shape the story.

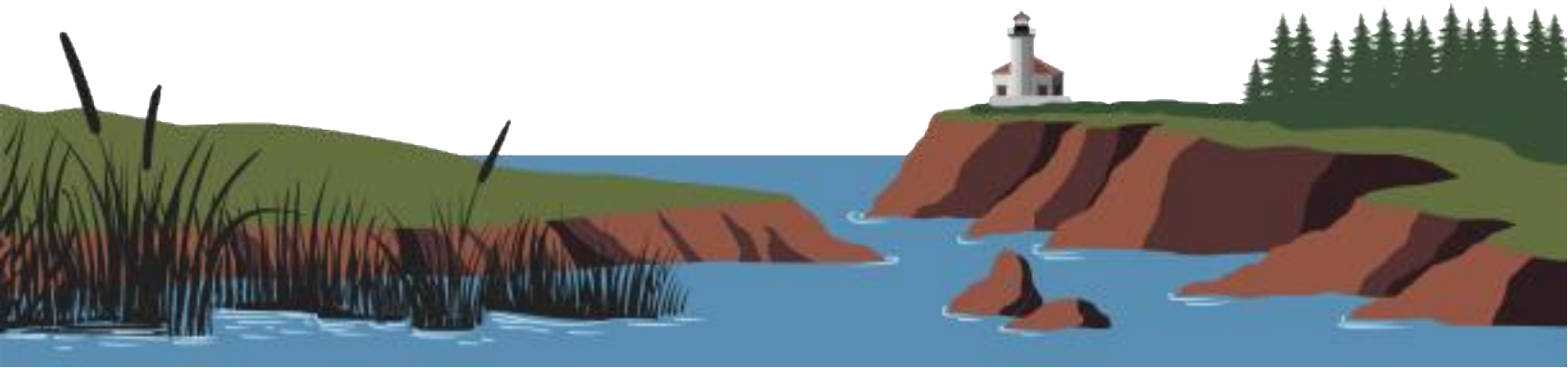
This lesson helps students:

- Illustrate story elements by designing a map that shows where important places and items belong.
- Use fine motor skills (coloring, cutting, gluing) to complete an art project with multiple steps.
- Recognize relationships in the story, including how people interact with land, water, salmon, and tools essential for daily life and trade.

Key Discovery:

Students discover that stories can show the relationships between people, natural resources, and the places they depend on, and that creating a map can help us see how these relationships support community life, including trade.

Standards	• Primary: VA.1.CR1.1(2), VA.2.CR2.1(2) • Secondary: 1.RL.1, 1.RI.6
Materials	• Salmon Story • Map of the river and creek • Instructions Key and Cutouts Worksheet • Colored pencils or color crayons • Scissors / Glue
Vocabulary	• **Map-** A drawing that shows where places are, like areas of land, water, etc.. • **Design-** A plan or drawing that shows how something will look.



Vocabulary	• **Key-** (as used for instructions) A guide that explains symbols or placement on a map. • **River-** A large, flowing body of water that flows into a lake, the ocean, or another river. • **Creek-** A smaller flowing body of water that flows into another stream or river. • **Drying Rack-** A frame or stand used for holding items, such as salmon, until they dry.

Setup and Logistics

- Display or reread the Salmon Story for visual reference.
- Copy the Map Template, Key Instruction Key, and Cutouts Worksheet for each student.
- Place scissors, glue, and coloring materials where students can easily access them.

Class Flow

Activity 1: Design a Map:

Step 1: Share Salmon Story

- Display the Salmon Story and invite the students to notice the important places and items in the story: fish trap basket, drying rack, fish, small basket.
- Teacher Prompt:
    - Where do you imagine each part of the story happening

Step 2: Explore Vocabulary

- Review key terms, map, design, river, creek, key, so students understand how artists use maps to show relationships and place.

Step 3: Introduce the Art Activity

- Provide each student with a Map, and the Instructions Key and Cutouts Worksheet
- Explain that the instructions show where items belong and how to color them.

Step 4: Invite students to create the map:

- Color the map and the cutout items
- Cut out the frying rack, baskets, salmon, rocks, and fish trap basket



- Glue items in places that make sense based on the story
- Add drawn details.
- Encourage creative thinking while staying anchored in the details from the story.

Step 5: Think and Share

- Invite students to share their completed map designs with a partner or a small group. How are the designs similar or different?
- Teacher Prompts:
    - How did you decide where to place each item?
    - What details from the story helped you?
    - How do the map pieces show relationships between people, water, and tools for trade or daily life?

