Arts
4th Grade

Lesson 6: Visual Arts | 20 minutes over 2-3 days

Activity 1–Design a Stamp

Summary

Students will understand and identify the difference between the elements of art and principles of design that are used for designing a stamp. Students will understand that designing for a stamp is very different from designing for a poster or a large-scale work. Students will understand that elements and principles help subjects convey a special message through visual art.

Key Discoveries:

- *Students will identify elements of art and principles of design used in the stamp.*
- *Students will identify how the artist scaled the design to a stamp size.*

Standards	• Primary: VA.1.CR1.4 (1), VA.1.CR1.4 (2), VA.1.CR1.4 (3), VA.2.CR2.4 (3), VA.3.CR3.4 (1), VA.3.CR3.4 (3), VA.4.PR1.4 (3), ,VA.10.CO1.4 (3), VA.10.CO1.4 (1)., VA.10.CO1.4 (2), VA.11.CO2.4 (2)
Materials	• Smithsonian Design a Stamp Activity • Design a Stamp Journal • Blank Stamp
Vocabulary	• **Typography:** Words added to an image to give additional information to the viewer. • **Color:** The visual cue that defines a space or line in the design. • **Line:** A mark that creates direction and structure in an image. Lines can be thin, thick, curvy, straight, or broken. • **Shape:** A form that creates a distinguishable image in a space. Shapes can be circles, squares, triangles, or organic shapes (natural, non-geometric). • **Value:** The light and dark shades of a color. The values for blue can be robin blue, royal blue, teal, cornflower blue, or turquoise.

Background for Teachers:

Review the attached Smithsonian National Postal Museum Design a Stamp Activity.



Class Flow:

Activity 1: Design a Stamp

Step 1: Introduction-This activity should be used in conjunction any other activity about Oregon or U.S. Indian Tribes.

- Ask students to select a Tribe to Research for their stamp design.
    - An Oregon Tribe or other Tribe of Interest
- Complete the first part of the Journal Worksheet

Step 2: Introduction to Stamp Design.

- Review and Share Smithsonian Design a Stamp Activity Sheet.
- Share actual stamps or pictures of stamps and Discuss

Step 3: Complete the Worksheet Activities in the Design A Stamp

- This can be done individually, in pairs or groups or as a whole class.

Step 4: Complete the Stamp Design Project.

Step 5: Journal Activity

- Invite students to write a brief description of their stamp design.
- Complete the second part of the Journal activity.

Step 6: Discussion and Share

- Discussion on what students learned about color and design.
- Invite students to share their stamp designs.
- Optional: Display stamp designs in the classroom or hallway.

