



**Title: Exploring Iowa Architecture: Creating Representations of Everyday Places**

**Grade Level: 3rd Grade**

Subject: Visual Arts

Objective:

Students will be able to identify and discuss various architectural styles found in Iowa, create representations of everyday places using drawing materials, and collaborate to construct a class map showcasing different architectural features.

Materials Needed:

- Pictures or slides of different architectural styles in Iowa (urban skylines, neighborhoods, farmhouses, barns, Victorian houses, etc.)
- Drawing paper
- Colored pencils, markers, or crayons
- Large piece of poster board or butcher paper
- Glue sticks
- Scissors
- Reference books or online resources about Iowa architecture (optional)

Duration: 1 hour

Procedure:

Introduction (10 minutes):

- Begin the lesson by showing students pictures or slides of different architectural styles found in Iowa.
- Engage the students in a discussion about what they notice in the pictures.  
Prompt questions like:
  - What shapes do you see?
  - What materials are used?
  - How are the buildings designed?
- Explain to the students that they will be learning about architecture in Iowa and creating their own representations of everyday places.

Exploration (20 minutes):

- Provide each student with drawing paper and drawing materials.
- Instruct the students to choose one architectural style they find interesting from the pictures shown and begin drawing their own representation of an everyday place inspired by that style.
- Encourage creativity and imagination while drawing.

Collaboration (15 minutes):

- Divide the class into small groups (3-4 students per group).
- Provide each group with a large piece of poster board or butcher paper.
- Instruct the groups to collaborate and combine their individual drawings to create a class map showcasing different architectural styles found in Iowa.
- Encourage students to discuss and decide how to organize their drawings on the map.

Presentation (10 minutes):

- Invite each group to present their class map to the rest of the class.
- Allow students to explain the architectural examples they included and why they chose them.
- Encourage questions and discussions among the students.

Reflection (5 minutes):

- Wrap up the lesson by asking students to reflect on what they learned about architecture in Iowa.
- Have students share one thing they found interesting or surprising about the architectural styles they explored.
- Encourage students to think about how architecture shapes our everyday lives.

Extensions:

- Take a virtual or real field trip to observe local architectural landmarks in Iowa (contact the Iowa Architectural Foundation at [director@iowaarchfoundation.org](mailto:director@iowaarchfoundation.org)).
- Invite a local architect or historian to speak to the class about Iowa architecture (contact the Iowa Architectural Foundation at [director@iowaarchfoundation.org](mailto:director@iowaarchfoundation.org)).
- Have students research and create presentations about specific architectural styles found in Iowa, such as the Amana Colonies or Frank Lloyd Wright's designs in the state.

Assessment:

- Assess students based on their participation in discussions, creativity in their drawings, collaboration during the group activity, and the quality of their contributions to the class map.