Lesson Plan: Ice Cream Portraits

Grade level: 3-6

Duration: 2-3 class periods

Media Type: pencil, colored pencil, paint

Subject Integration: Science

Objective: To create an ice cream/dessert drawing/painting after being inspired by Duluth ice cream maker, Nicole Wilde.

Assessment:

Rubric:
- 4-Standards are exceeded
- 3-Standards are met
- 2-Standards may be met at a very low quality or with some exceptions
- 1-Standards are not met
- 0-

Vocabulary:
Visual Arts Elements/Principles:
- color
- shape
- line
- texture
- balance
- unity
- proportion
- form
- value
- space
- contrast
- emphasis
- movement
- pattern
- rhythm

Materials and Procedure:

Day 1: Present students with Making It Up North video snippet about making ice cream by hand. [https://makingit.wdse.org/watch/nicole-wildes-love-creamery](https://makingit.wdse.org/watch/nicole-wildes-love-creamery) (4:10) Lead a conversation about making homemade ice cream vs. ice cream being made on a large factory machine. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vlb4mfQy6-s&t=42s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vlb4mfQy6-s&t=42s) (4:41) How It’s Made: Factory Ice Cream

If time permits, discuss entrepreneurship, and what it means to start your own business. Discuss business owner, Nicole Wilde, and how she came to open her own ice cream shop.

Show artworks by artists who choose to use ice cream as their subject matter for creating artwork. (Artists: Merrill Weber, Wayne Thiebaud, Nancy Standlee, Francis Livingston)

Pass out paper and pencils to start sketches of ice cream; in varying forms.

Day 2: Continue sketches of ice cream. Start to use colored pencil, paint to complete artwork.

Day 3: Finish ice cream inspired artwork.
**Discussion Questions:** “How is ice cream made?” “What ingredients does it take to make ice cream?” “Why do you think Nicole decided to open an ice cream shop?” “What are the pros and cons of making ice cream by hand? Using a machine?” “What does Nicole say about the hard work involved in making ice cream?”

**Resources:**  
https://www.artsy.net/artist/wayne-thiebaud (Artist information)  
http://www.artnet.com/artists/wayne-thiebaud/ (Artist information)  
https://www.smithsonianmag.com/arts-culture/wayne-thiebaud-is-not-a-pop-artist-57060/  
https://www.nga.gov/content/dam/ngaweb/Education/learning-resources/an-eye-for-art/AnEyeforArt-WayneThiebaud.pdf  
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ILmELqnAC3w Francis Livingston video (4:12)

**National Standards for Visual Arts:**  
VA:Cr1.2.6a Formulate an artistic investigation of personally relevant content for creating art.  

VA:Cr2.1.6a Demonstrate openness in trying new ideas, materials, methods, and approaches in making works of art and design.

**Example of Science Standards: Middle School level**

- Students can recognize the benefits and setbacks that new technologies offer  
- Students can identify evidence of physical changes  
- Students can evaluate the impact of engineered systems on daily life