

NAME: _____



Activity One

Research Report: The World of Art

E.L. Konigsburg is an author and an artist, and much of her writing involves Art. There are many different types of art and many ages and styles of art. In this story, we learn a little about Michelangelo the sculptor from the Italian Renaissance. Choose a famous Artist that interests you to write a report on.

Step One: Copy the below chart on another paper, then set up your research notes.

Questions	What you found out in Source #1 (write down the source)	What you found out in Source # 2 (write down the source)	Further questions or ideas for research
1.			
2.			

Step Two: Think of 10 to 15 questions that you want to find out about to include in your notes and write the questions in the chart.

Step Three: Research. Remember to include samples of the pictures of the art your artist made. (Your report should have pictures, after all you are researching an Artist.)

Step Four: Write an introductory paragraph to go in front of the rest of the paragraphs. In it you should tell the reader who the artist is/was, and why he/she is interesting and important.

Step Five: Write a paragraph to answer each of your questions you researched.

Step Six: Write a final paragraph to try to convince everyone that the artist you selected was the best artist to study.

Step Seven: Add pictures/illustrations and polish it up. (Get a friend to read it over and make sure it makes sense, it is convincing, and has all the spelling and grammar correct.)

Step Eight: Share with your teacher and your class.

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Activity Two

Diorama to set the scene



Create a 3-Dimensional Art Gallery diorama. Using a box, cardboard, clay and any other materials that you will need to build a little example of a gallery from an Art Museum.

Step 1: Research what you will need to find out about a famous Art Gallery. Talk to your teacher or your librarian for ideas if you don't want to do the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. Look at the names of the galleries, the types of artifacts that are found in the galleries, and select one gallery to do in detail. Record as much information as you can. Try to get a picture of the gallery if you can and measure the size of the display cases, size of the room, etc.

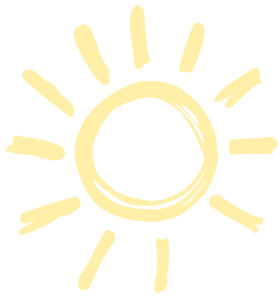
Step 2: Plan out the set up for the gallery with graph paper to help you make things to scale. If the graph paper is the same size as the floor of the box, it will help you make everything fit in realistically. Put down as much detail as you can on your planning paper.

Step 3: Gather your materials. You need the box and material to construct with cardboard, paper, glue, tape, fabric, scissors, modeling clay, paint....

Step 4: Take time to create the furnishings, art and artifacts that would be seen in the room. Put them in the diorama and share with your teacher and class.



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Activity Three

New York City: the Big Apple



Claudia loved planning for her trip. Imagine you are going on a trip to New York City. Find out what there is to do there, and make a plan to go and see all the attractions you are interested in.

Find out:

	Where will you stay?	Sites to see.	Events to see.	Any other places to visit.
Describe the key features. What is there to do there?				
How much do they cost?				
Where are they? (perhaps circle on a map of N.Y. City)				
How do you get there?				

After gathering the information, make an ITINERARY (a day-by-day detailed plan). Write out each day: where you would sleep, what you would do? How you would get around? How much money you would need? Where you would get your meals? Include any other details you think is important for your plan.

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Activity Four

Money for Charity



In the story, Claudia and Jamie took a bath in the restaurant fountain and found money. People often throw money in fountains to make a wish. Many public fountains use the money in the fountain to help a charity. If you were in charge of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, to which charity would you donate the money in the fountain?



1. Research a charity that you would choose. Select something that you would like to change, some problem you would like to solve. Describe the charity. What is it called? What does it do? Where are they located? How does it help the world?
2. How could you help? Is there something you could help organize with the help of some classmates or your school to help support this charity? Think of ways that you could help 'educate' others about the charity you selected so they could help if they wanted to. Think of ways that you could volunteer, or ways to raise money for the charity. (Can you get a fountain for money, a bottle drive, a bake sale, a car wash, face painting,...other ideas?)

Present this information to your class. See if you can make a plan and follow through to help a charity that you believe.

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Activity Five

Operation Appreciation



At the beginning of the story, Claudia felt underappreciated. She didn't feel special or recognized as important. Many people feel that way. Write a letter to someone you know who you would like to recognize and appreciate.

True appreciation is recognition of what a person does, not something that they were given or were born with. For example, if your friend is a very fast runner and always has been, and running comes easy to them, it may not mean very much to them if you say how great of a runner they are. But if your friend runs every day and tries to get faster or run longer and works at it every day, then they would probably feel great that someone recognized their dedication, perseverance and self-discipline.

Think of someone you know who does something that is worthy of appreciation.

Write a letter.

Start with Dear: _____

In your first paragraph: tell them why you are writing. Be specific: what exactly do you appreciate?

In your second paragraph: fill in the details. Tell them what you noticed that they do and why you appreciate what they do. Explain why you think what they do is great.

In your third paragraph: add anything else you want to say, and thank them again.

Sign your name.

James Matthew Barrie, who wrote Peter Pan, once said: "Those who bring sunshine to the lives of others cannot keep it from themselves."



Activity Six

Imagine



From the *Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* is about collecting secrets. Mrs. Frankweiler has 17 filing cabinets full of mysteries and secrets that she has investigated. What other mysteries do you think Mrs. Frankweiler has in her filing cabinets? There are a great many mysteries in the world. Find one that interests you? Options could be: Is there a Sasquatch? Yeti? Loch Ness Monster? Or other mythical creature. Perhaps you want to explore other mysteries: Alien contact with humans? Supernatural creatures? Is there any truth behind the existence of vampires? Werewolves? Ghosts? Zombies? There are also many crimes that happened that have never been solved: the mystery of D. B. Cooper or Jack the Ripper, for example. Or perhaps you will investigate the disappearance of planes and boats in the Bermuda Triangle?

Find a mystery that interests you.

Gather data on:

1. What is the mystery? Give a good clear description of the object, being or situation.
2. What facts are known? List what is known about the object, being or situation.
3. What is your opinion and why? Explain what you think about the situation and why.

Title		
★	Fact One	
★	Fact Two	

Write a one page Factoid to post in the class. Include a picture or map to help make the information clear and interesting.