

## Lesson Plan #4: Aesthetics

Anna, Eli, and Mia

Time: 45 minutes

Age: 5-6 years

Materials: Play-Doh, paper, markers (every color of the rainbow), printed photos of paintings

Learning Objectives:

- What do we consider beautiful and good
- If beauty in art is Subjective vs. Objective
- Give reasons for why we find art beautiful

Intro (5 min)

- Review names and pronouns
- Review guidelines
- What is something you think is beautiful?

Activity 1: Museum (10 min)

- “Has anyone ever been to a museum? Heard about a museum?”
- What kind of art belongs in a museum?
- Do you like all the art in museums?
- Do you think art has to be “beautiful” to belong in a museum? Does it have to be beautiful for it to be valued or considered “good”?
- What makes art beautiful?
- Does art capture natural beauty or is that different?
- Print pictures of paintings (both abstract and realistic) and pass them around
  - What are your thoughts on these paintings?
  - Does art have to be realistic for it to be good?
  - Can you value art without knowing any meaning behind it?

~Stretch Break~

Activity 2: Colors (10 min)

- Give markers to kids (have every color of the rainbow)
- Draw a rainbow with the colors but change the order of the rainbow and order it most beautiful to least beautiful

- Why did you choose this order?
- If two people have different orders → can both of your orders be correct?
- Is everything that is your favorite color beautiful?
- What makes your favorite color beautiful?
- If you went to a museum and saw black and white drawing of a rainbow would it be less beautiful (see printed out picture of painting of grey rainbow)
- What about a photograph of a real rainbow (natural beauty).

### Activity 3: Sculpting (10 min)

- Use play-doh to sculpt an animal (maybe for 2-3 minutes)
- Do you think your sculpture belongs in a museum? Why or why not?
- Comment on sculptures - “what do you think it is” etc.
- Do you think your sculpture is beautiful?
- Anna Mia and Eli will also make sculptures (do same animal but different styles) that the kids can judge (probably don’t want them judging each other),
- Are our sculptures beautiful?
- Out of our three sculptures, which one would you put in a museum?
- What if one person finds it beautiful and one person doesn’t?
- Can people have different styles they find beautiful? Does the sculpture have to be an exact replica of the animal to be beautiful?

### End (5 min)

- How well did we follow guidelines?
- How did you like the activities?
- Do you feel differently about what beauty is? What does it mean to be beautiful?

### Activity 1 Painting Pictures:





