



Grade/s: 10-12

Enduring Idea: Materialism

Integrated Discipline: Mathematics

Unit Title: Magnifying Materialism

Unit Designer: Kara Luke

Unit Description: Learners will discuss the idea of materialism through the objects we hold dear to our hearts; objects we cannot live without; objects that serve as a vice, hold a significant memory, or shape us into who we are. In groups of 5, learners will collaborate and construct a sculpture of an object that is magnified at least 10X its original size. The larger than life sculpture will showcase the objects significance in the daily lives of our learners.

Images: -Laurie Simmons, *Food, Clothing, Shelter*, 1996; CMA 1997.5.1-3
-Michael Sherrill, *Iron Maiden Teapot*, 1995; CMA 1995.12

Key Concept: Value is placed on objects depending on culture/beliefs

Essential Question: What determines value?

CCSS Art:

- IV. The student will understand the visual arts in relation to history and world cultures and the technologies, tools, and materials used by artists.
- VI. The student will make connections between the visual arts and other arts disciplines, other content areas, and the world.

Integrated CCSS: **CCSS.Math.Content.HSG-GMD.A.3** Use volume formulas for cylinders, pyramids, cones, and spheres to solve problems.

Learning Outcomes: The learner will:

1. Discuss the importance of objects in our lives, what they mean, and how it relates to materialism in our society. They will view CMA artworks as well as works during the Pop Art Movement.
2. Collaborate with other learners and choose one object to immortalize/show case as a magnified sculpture for our modern American world.
3. Build the sculpture as a group, magnifying the sculpture at least 10X it's actual size.

Motivator: The teacher will show physical student examples of past magnified sculptures, and talk about the playfulness of magnified art such as in the works of Claes Oldenburg.

Day Breakdown: Day 1: Motivator; Discussion about materialism manifested in objects and why they are important to us; CMA and other art exemplars.
Day 2: Group discussion about specific objects important to our modern American society, show and tell session of important objects.
Day 3: Learners will be divided into groups of 4-5. Each group will brainstorm and discuss possible options for a giant magnified sculpture, and choose one as a group.
Day 4: Brainstorm construction methods, materials needed, composition of sculpture, and any other issues that need to be addressed.
Day 5-15: Magnified sculpture construction.
Day 16: Group presentation, critique, and installation around the school as a topic of interest.

Materials: *varied depending on objects chosen by learners
-cardboard, fabric, glue, scissors, plaster wrap, wire, paint, Styrofoam, etc.

Resources: CMA images, Andy Warhol images, Claes Oldenburg images

Assessment: -Group participation checklist (to be filled out by each group member)
-Group assignment grade based on general sculpture rubric

