



Grade/s: 9-12

Enduring Idea: Relationships

Integrated Discipline: English

Unit Title: Remembrance Reliquaries

Unit Designer: Kara Luke

Unit Description: Learners will discuss personal relationships and the special objects we have that remind us of these relationships. Learners and the teacher will discuss why these objects hold significance above other objects we use every day. Learners will discuss personal histories and the significance of time capsules. Each learner will create a list of ten objects they would include in their own time capsule and why. They will share their lists with peers. Learners will narrow down their list to the most personally meaningful object in which they are able to bring to school. After viewing *Cassone* and *Wedding Vase* from the CMA, learners will design a shrine or reliquary to immortalize or house their chosen object. Each learner will have the opportunity to work with clay, wood, wire, and Styrofoam in building their structures in-the-round. The learners will defend their choices of material and design in a self-critique and reflection.

Images: -Unidentified Italian Artisan, *Cassone* (wedding chest), 1550; CMA 1959.29
-Sara Ayers, *Wedding Vase*, 1980; CMA 2010.8.1

Key Concept: Shared experiences can have different responses and influence relationships.

Essential Question: How can objects and places reflect shared experiences or relationships?

CCSS Art: Standard H1-II The student will use knowledge of **composition** and the **elements and**

principles of design to communicate ideas.

Standard H1-V The student will analyze and assess the characteristics and qualities of their artworks and the artworks of others.

Integrated CCSS: **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-10.2** Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.

Learning Outcomes: The learner will:

1. Discuss with teacher and peers the importance certain objects have in regards to relationships and memories.
2. Create a list of the ten most important objects to include in a personal time capsule, and share reasons why these particular items were picked.
3. Create a shrine or reliquary that houses the most important item from list.
4. Share the relationship significance the sculpture embodies in a self-reflection.

Motivator: The teacher will discuss time capsules and pull ten of her own objects out of a box and share the significance of each with her learners.

Day Breakdown: Day 1: Motivator; group discussion about relationships and meaning of objects to our relationships.
Day 2: Further discussion about object importance in connection to personal relationships, CMA artist exemplars, discussion about the types of objects we hold dear to our hearts. Learners will then create a list of the ten most important objects they would put in a time capsule.
Day 3: Learners will choose the most significant object from their list to create a shrine or reliquary to house their object. The teacher will remind learners to choose the most important relationship/object connection.
Day 4: Teacher will share photos of past student examples, and discuss different ways to embody the object appropriately and thoughtfully. Learners will spend the rest of the period sketching designs/layouts for sculpture.

Day 5-20: Learners will create their shrine/ reliquary that houses their most significant object linked to a relationship.

Day 21: Learners will explain and defend their sculpture and choice of materials in a self-critique and reflection. These reflections will be on view next to sculptures during a school function.

Materials: pencils, paper, clay, wire, wood, Styrofoam, glue, plaster putty, India ink, paint, shoe polish, pliers, jigsaw, wood glue, spray-paint

Resources: Artist exemplars, Smartboard, various objects for discussion, historical artifact photographs, example shrine and reliquaries

Assessment: Participation, checklist of time capsule items, checklist for thumbnail sketches, group discussion, observation, rubric of final piece, self-evaluation

