Architectural Styles

Summary of Lesson

The class will explore various styles of architecture. Together, the class will create clay buildings that come together to make a small town. There will be discussion on maps, layouts, and structure of buildings.

Objectives: The students will;

- Work together to create a town and a map of it.
- Discuss common uses of technology in daily life and the advantages and disadvantages those uses provide.
- Use general purpose productivity tools and peripherals to support personal productivity, remediate skill deficits, and facilitate learning throughout the curriculum.
- Use technology tools for individual and collaborative writing, communication, and publishing activities to create knowledge products for audiences inside and outside the classroom.

Materials

Resources: Architectural books, architectural web pages.
Software: Any drawing program.
Hardware: Digital drawing tablet, copy machine.

Activities

1. The class will discuss the functions of a cohesive town. They will brainstorm necessary buildings and locations. They will vote on a culture and research the different building styles of that culture using the internet and books.
2. The teacher will assign each student an individual structure to create.
3. The students will research the style, size, and function of buildings and make several sketches from different perspectives of their building.
4. The teacher will demonstrate how to create a slab built box and how to add and remove clay to create specific details.
5. The students will each create their own building to be contributed to the new class town.
6. The students will work together to organize their finished buildings into a cohesive new town. Problem solving and teamwork will be crucial.

During the computer session;

1. The teacher will create a digitally-rendered map to draw the beginnings of a map of the new town (roads and/or landmarks).

2. Each student will add his or her building to scale to the map.
3. After every building has been added to the map, the students will take turns again adding one more detail to the map (stop-lights, dogs, trees, signs, etc.)
4. The teacher will print out a copy of the map and make copies for everyone.

After the computer session;

1. The students will discuss the process of making their town, how the town may look if it had been built in a different culture or location, how the land influences construction and materials.
2. The teacher will show the students how architects such as Frank Lloyd Wright and others built around the landscape.
3. The class will discuss their new appreciation for town layouts and designs of individual buildings, as well as whole-town designs.
4. Additional activities may include writing directions using the map.