

An Exhibition in the Classroom - Explore the Site with Your Students

Pedagogical Intent

Students develop an understanding of life in the artistic community of Cape Dorset by watching video content covering a range of topics. They then demonstrate their understanding by creating a video or writing about what they've learned.

Subjects

The Arts, Language, Media Literacy, Geography, History

Themes

Canadian and Aboriginal art, printmaking, Aboriginal culture, diversity

Skills and Competencies

Demonstrate creativity, cooperate with others, listen to others, observe, interpret, discuss, describe, compare, use digital media as a learning tool, use oral communication, apply and transfer knowledge and skills, gather information, organize a project

Duration

120–240 minutes

Grades 5 to 8

Watch, Learn and Do: Make Your Own Video

Web Resources

YouTube

[Cape Dorset Video](#) An excellent introduction to the community, to printmaking and sculpture

[Cape Dorset Approach](#) View from plane landing in Cape Dorset

[Renowned Printmaker at Work](#) Perfect for how they do it

[Kenojuak Ashevak](#) A short introduction to her work, shows her receiving an award

[Cape Dorset Carvers Practising their Art in Summer](#)





Print

[The Enchanted Owl](#) A profile of this work, how it was created and some information about the artist

[2010 Kivalliq Championship Dog Derby](#) Chronicle of a dogsled race in Kivalliq

[Cape Dorset Studio Marks 50 Years](#) Short video of the 50th collection release in Iqaluit

[How to Make Linoleum Block Prints](#) Instructional video

[How to Make Linoleum Block Prints2](#) Instructional video

[How to Make Linoleum Block Prints3](#) Instructional video

[High-Performance Snowmobile](#) A very fast snowmobile with a 1,000-cubic-centimetre engine demonstrates its power on an Arctic ice road

National Film Board

[Kenojuak Ashevak](#)

Websites

[Municipality of Cape Dorset Website](#) Municipal website, with pictures and biographies of artists

[Cape Dorset Prints 2010](#) The 2010 collection

[Cape Dorset Selected Prints 1999–2009](#) A selection of prints from 1999 to 2008 and some prints from the 2009 collection

[Dorset Fine Arts](#) The site of the marketing division of the West Baffin Eskimo Co-operative. An excellent site to view prints

Equipment

Internet-enabled computers, projection screen, video cameras and connectivity

Teacher Preparation

This works well as a small group project. Preview all online video content before the full-class viewing to ensure live links and test all equipment. To ensure ease of use, require that all videos be submitted in MPEG or QuickTime format. Before beginning, decide whether to allow students to use their own recording devices.



Procedure

1. View Video

Begin with a full-class viewing of the [Cape Dorset Video](#), at least one of the instructional videos and at least one of the websites, including the Cape Dorset online exhibition. Students should have seen a reasonable sample of Cape Dorset prints.

2. Locate Cape Dorset on a map.

Facilitate a discussion using the questions below as a starting point:

- Did anything you saw in the videos surprise or particularly interest you?
- Which of the videos were professionally produced, and which were amateur? How can you tell the difference?
- What are your opinions about life in the Arctic? Do you think you could live there? Why or why not?
- What do the prints reveal about Cape Dorset?
- If you were an artist living in Cape Dorset, what subjects would you focus on in your art?

3. Students select and complete one of the following assignments :

a. Cape Dorset Art Video

Students create a one- to two-minute digital video in which they profile three Cape Dorset prints. Each video must include the following elements:

- story of the community (location and history of Cape Dorset)
- stories of the prints (years they were created, artists involved, techniques used, etc.)
- stories of the artists (how long they've been producing art, other work they've done, common themes in their art)

b. Written Assignment about Cape Dorset and Nunavut

Using one or more of the above questions as a starting point, write 300 words about Cape Dorset and life in Nunavut. Facts about Cape Dorset printmaking and how life is lived there should be included, as well as photographs of Cape Dorset art, opinions about things you've seen and ideas about how your life would be different if you lived in Nunavut.



Extension Activities

Introduce the Artists in Your Community to the World in a Three-Minute Film

Create a three- to five-minute documentary in which you profile artists in your school or community, the medium, or media, they work in and the techniques they use.

Multimedia Presentation: Cape Dorset and Nunavut Art

Create a multimedia presentation (300 to 500 words) about Cape Dorset and Nunavut art that includes photographs and detailed descriptions of at least five prints and/or sculptures. Submit the finished product to the teacher or present it to the class. For an added challenge add animation, video footage or audio clips.