OAKVILLE

GRADE 6 LESSON PLAN
ENVIRONMENTAL PHOTO MONTAGE – DIGITAL ART

Lesson Plan Information	
Grade: 6 Subject: Arts (Visual Arts) Science and Technology (Understanding Life Systems) Duration: 2 hours	

Lesson Plan Overview and Objectives
Students learn about photography, photoshop and collage. Students create a digital environmental collage in which they combine elements from other two-dimensional sources. They learn to use the rule of thirds and colour mixing techniques to create their collage. Through their digital collage, they will demonstrate their understanding of elements of design and principles of design (focusing on balance).

AT QUEEN ELIZABETH PARK COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL CENTRE

Environmental Photo Montage – Digital Art Inspired by Edward Burtynsky	
Materials	Reference images of Canadian photographer Edward Burtynsky's work, Mac computers, magazines, found images of nature, each computer will contain stock images of landscapes
Introduction Inspiration	The instructor introduces Edward Burtynsky's work. Discuss his photographs and their meaning. Watch films *Manufactured Landscapes* and *Watermark*. Students will explore the distinguishing characteristics of plants, animals and objects that appear in his photographs. Discuss how Burtynsky uses elements of design and principles of design. *Guiding questions* - Describe objects that are depicted in the photos. Why do you think the artist has picked the following objects and landscape? - What do you feel when you look at Burtynsky's photos? Why do you feel that way? - How does Burtynsky work with texture? - How does the size of his work affect mood? - How does the composition create a balance? What is in the background? What is in the foreground?

	Art terms to be covered - Elements of design - Principles of design - Photography - Photoshop - Collage - Symbolism - Balance - Texture
Demonstration Activity	The studio will be set up with twelve computer terminals. Larger groups will work in teams. There will be a large table with miscellaneous images of landscapes, nature, etc. There will be stacks of magazines. Each computer will have a folder with many images that have already been scanned or downloaded for use. *Demonstration by the instructor* - Mac computers – the instructor will review the use of Macintosh computers - Photoshop – the instructor will teach the basics of photoshop - Balance – arranging elements to create weight or importance - Shape and form – proportion - Space – one-point perspective, symmetry - Texture – of the images *Drawing – Idea Sketch* Students create a sketch of their digital photo montage. Based on instruction and demonstration, students apply elements of design to create their sketch. *Computer Work* Students learn the basics of Photoshop and then work from the idea sketch to create a digital montage.

FOR TEACHER USE BACK AT SCHOOL – POST-VISIT ACTIVITIES

Post-Visit Activity	Artist reflection questions, photography
Materials	Digital cameras, monitor

Artist Reflection
Students describe how they used perspective and the rule of thirds to create their digital photographic montages. What did they learn from Edward Burtynsky and his photographs? What role does the size of his work play in how we perceive it?

Resources
https://www.ted.com/talks/edward_burtynsky_on_manufactured_landscapes
http://www.watchwatermarkmovie.com/
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U2Dd4k63-zM
Manufactured landscapes, Lori Pauli, Mark Haworth-Booth, Edward Burtynsky, Yale University Press, 2011

FOR TEACHER REFERENCE ONLY – CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

Cross Curricular and Integrated Learning	Science and Technology

Science and Technology (Biodiversity)

Photography
Take digital photos of both urban and rural landscapes using Burtynsky's themes of ecology and how industrial development is altering the earth's natural landscape. Create a digital slideshow with your classmates by placing them in PowerPoint presentation. If possible, project on the school's monitor for a few weeks. Ask friends, family and neighbours to email you photos and add them to the presentation. If the school has a facebook or instagram page, ask if the images might be uploaded there. If so, ensure that each contributor has signed a waiver for the use of the photos.

Curriculum Expectations

The Arts (Visual Art)

Fundamental Concepts:
Elements of Design (line, shape and form, space, colour, texture, value)

Principles of Design
Grade 6: Balance

Science and Technology (Understanding Life Systems)
Grade 6 Topic: Biodiversity