Patchwork Stories On-site Lesson

Overview

In this study, students will explore the ideas discussed in Beyond the Oaks: Lowcountry Plantations. They will respond to the exhibition through visual storytelling and writing, by creating a paper quilt square.

This activity is facilitated during on-site visit to the Morris Center’s Beyond the Oaks exhibition.

Learning Objectives

- Students will cultivate awareness of historic events in South Carolina with a focus on the plantation life.
- Students will practice using elements of art to create a visual image of where they live and a slave cabin on a plantation.
- Students will practice writing skills by describing where they live and where enslaved children lived.
Activity

- Introduce the activity to the students. *Today we will talk about what life on a plantation would have been like and the people who were forced to live and work on them. We will used collage to make a patchwork square to tell these stories visually.*

- Discuss the story with your students.
  - *What did Henry do everyday?*
  - *What do you do everyday? Is it different or the same as Henry’s life?*
  - *Where do you live? What does it look like?*
  - *Where did Henry live? What did it look like?*

- *Now, we will look at a map of a plantation and pictures of people on plantations.*

- Students can consider the following prompts as they explore the images.
  - *I see...I find...I spot...*
  - *What sounds would there be?*
  - *What smells would there be?*

- *You will now use your pencils and colored pencils to draw a picture of where you live. After that you will draw a picture of where a child like Henry lived. [Depending on the grade level you may want to give students some specific guidelines.]*

- *Now that you have drawn and colored your pictures, you will now write about them. On a sheet of lined paper, write 1-2 sentences about each picture.*

- Students can share their stories and images to the class.

Map and Images are on the next 3 pages.