

<p style="text-align: center;">Cathedral of Christ the Light Building the House of God</p>
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Topic: Exploring the History and Architecture of Some of the World's Cathedrals

Standards Addressed:

Grades 6-8

- Expectation 2: *The student will demonstrate an understanding of the history of the Church.*
- Expectation 6: *The student will demonstrate knowledge of the Church as People of God, Body of Christ, and Community of Faith.*
- Expectation 8: *The student will understand that the Eucharistic Liturgy (Mass) is the communal celebration of the Paschal Mystery in which each is called to full and active participation.*
- Expectation 9: *The student will demonstrate a knowledge of and ability to participate in the Catholic tradition of prayer.*

General Goal(s):

Students will explore a brief history of French and Italian cathedrals and learn of the importance of a cathedral in diocesan life. Students will then create a realistic artpiece modeling a present cathedral or proposing a design for an imaginary cathedral.

Specific Objectives:

- To acquire vocabulary specific to cathedral art and architecture
- To place cathedral construction in the Church's historical context
- To foster student appreciation of the labor and artistry used to construct a cathedral

Required Materials:

- Access to Internet
- Variety of visual sources picturing world cathedrals
- Word Wall of cathedral/architecture terms
- Black construction paper, 11" x 18"
- Various colors of chalk or pastel crayons

Anticipatory Set (Lead-In):

Teacher should use below suggestions as well as any support scope and sequence to familiarize students with the architectural traditions of Roman Catholic cathedrals. Students could work in teams studying individual cathedrals and presenting their history in groups as a jigsaw activity or as a whole class presentation. **Suggested time: 2-3 class periods.**

Suggested, partial word list for Word Wall, for students to define (using words or illustrations):

- Nave
- Transept/apse
- Choir (as part of building)
- Romanesque design
- Gothic design
- Flying buttresses
- Gargoyles
- Stained glass
- Chartres
- Notre Dame de Paris
- Il Duomo
- Notre Dame de Rouen

Suggested Websites to be Ready for Student Access:

<http://library.thinkquest.org/10098/cathedrals.htm> (Created by D.C. junior high students)

http://www.bc.edu/bc_org/avp/cas/fnart/arch/chartres.html (Boston College Digital Archive)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O5Z1gxGhROQ&feature=related> (Video of Great Gothic Cathedrals)

<http://www.christthelightcathedral.org/> (Diocese of Oakland Christ the Light Cathedral)

Step-By-Step Procedures for the Visual Component (Suggested Time: at least 5 class periods + homework):

Once students have developed a sense of history and place, they may embark on the (re-) creation of a cathedral, exhibiting the interior or exterior or any part thereof in a visual way. One suggestion is for students to use visual perspective to recreate the façade of a well known cathedral using pastel crayons. Students could also create a design for a traditional stained glass window. Students could also create the design for an imaginary cathedral, using inspiration from contemporary cathedrals like St. Mary's in San Francisco or Christ the Light Cathedral in Oakland.

1. Students select the type of project they would like to create and the art medium in which they would like to work.

2. Students create a list of needed materials, identifying with the teacher what the school can provide and what they need from home.
3. If student selects an existing cathedral, the student uses resources to recreate the look of that cathedral on paper or in sculpture. If the student designs an original piece, the student must incorporate some symbols/architectural devices traditional to cathedrals.
4. Teacher and students create a daily timeline, listing daily goals and final dates. Teacher monitors daily progress while students work.
5. Once work is completed, each student writes a descriptive piece describing what the piece shows or represents. See attached rubric.

Closure (Reflect Anticipatory Set):

Teacher ties in this advanced study with the new Christ the Light Cathedral, its design, its purposes, and its function as the center of the Diocese of Oakland. Use online and print resources.

Assessment Based On Objectives:

See attached rubric for the writing summation.

Adaptations (For Students With Learning Differences):

Students may choose a variety of media for presentation: art/architectural software, digital imagery and manipulation, as well as other media with which the student is most comfortable.

Extensions (For Gifted Students):

Students could create an iMovie, Keynote, or Powerpoint presentation about the history and importance of one cathedral. Student should incorporate music, images, text, and narration, if applicable.

Possible Connections To Other Subjects:

- Art/Art History
- European History
- Geography
- Language Arts
- Math/Geometry

(Format Used With Permission From LessonPlansPage.com)

Rubrics

After having created your cathedral projects, please create a ONE paragraph explanation of your piece. What was your inspiration (name of a cathedral? etc.)? Why did you choose the colors you did? The shape? These are suggestions; please have this typed, to be turned in by Friday, December 8.

Grading Rubric for Written Piece:

- _____/5 correct heading
- _____/5 unique and attractive title
- _____/10 flawless spelling and stellar grammar
- _____/5 classy language; absence of dead words

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