Title/Description of Lesson
A Face in the Crowd

Grade Level:
3rd – 12th

Lesson Links
Objectives/Outcomes
Materials and Resources
Vocabulary
Procedures
Criteria for Assessing Student Learning
California Standards in Visual & Performing Arts
California Standards for Integrated Subject
Other Resources

Objectives/Outcomes (Return to Links)
Students will manipulate the clay into a recognizable object, in this case a face
Students will get a chance to see their work displayed with the work of others

Materials and Resources (Return to Links)
Any type of clay will do, but these will look best fired and glazed

- Clay
- Ceramics tools
- Glazes
Vocabulary  (Return to Links)

- **Pinchpot** – a direct method by which a small pot shaped vessel is made by directly pushing and pinching the clay to form the shape.

- **Clay terms:**
  - **Wet** - clay that has not been air dried or fired
  - **Leather hard** - Stage of the clay between plastic and bone dry. Clay is still damp enough to join it to other pieces using slip. For example, this is the stage handles are applied to mugs.
  - **Bone dry** - Completely air dried.
  - **Bisque** - Pottery which has been fired once, without glaze, to a temperature just before vitrification (become glassy or glass-like).

Procedures  (Return to Links)

When we see a crowd of people there is a great likeness amongst many of the faces, but upon closer observations we can see that the faces are all different, happy, sad, frustrated, serene, etc. When we see a large group of people we usually don’t take the time to examine each face. If we are looking closely into the crowd we are usually looking for a specific face, a friend, a relative, etc.

In this project we are going to create a face with an expression. That face can be laughing, sad, yelling, sleeping, content, but it has to have a definite expression.

The eyebrows and mouth are the features that mainly make the face seem a certain way.

- We are going to begin by creating a pinchpot. Make the sides of the pinchpot thicker than you usually would. Once you have the pot formed, curl the top edge of the pot in to create a ball-like structure.
- Turn the pot upside-down and begin pinching in the features of the face. If you made the sides thick enough you should not have to add any clay.
- Make the eyes, nose, mouth and ears.
- You can make and add hair using a hand garlic press, be sure to use plenty of water to attach it.
- Once the face is created we will let it dry and fire it.
- After that we add the glaze and fire it again.
- For a display we will put all of the faces together and create our own crowd. Notice all the various expressions on the faces in our clay crowd. These are the faces of us!
Criteria for Assessing Student Learning  (Return to Links)

California Standards in Visual & Performing Arts

Grade 3 Standard
2.5 Create an imaginative clay sculpture based on an organic form

Grade 4 Standard
2.3 Use additive and subtractive processes in making simple sculptural forms

California Standards for Integrated Subject  (Return to Links)

N/A

Other Resources  (Return to Links)