

PBL

Between Art and Food, the Greek Symposium



Project idea

Students will be able to:

Know the information on the related historical period;

- analyze the most important aspects of the artwork (title, period, used technique ...)
- know the main theme depicted in the artwork. The Symposium, an eating event in Ancient Greece.

Students will use the collected information to:

- contextualize the artwork
- get to know about the habits of the Greek people by reading the painting.

Lesson Objectives

Students will be able to collect information about the artwork. After collecting it, they will be able to know how to use it to make:

The description of the depicted theme i.e. the convivial style of the people in there.

Abilità del 21esimo Secolo :

21 st Century Skills	Learning skills and technological tools	Teaching Strategies	Evidence of success
Information and communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-art and history books-pc-multimedia devices-visual devices	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-to provide historical and artistic information in reference to the artwork	Detailed Presentation of the Diver's Tomb Symposium, 470 B.C.
Thinking and reasoning skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Collecting data-selecting information-categorizing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Problem solving-Discussion in class- Brainstorming	-congruence between the historical and artistic context and the artwork characteristics
Personal and work skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Explaining how to make a research	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Working independently-motivating	Awareness of the achieved project

Performance objectives:

Pupils will be able to:

- Identify the peculiar characteristics of the historical period and the which the artwork belongs to
- Identify the painting technique and the theme depicted in the artwork
- Establish links using the acquired knowledges in different disciplines (Culinary Art, Service, Food Science, History...)

The students will be able to:

- use the methodological tools employed in the historical and artistic disciplines to build their own working method
- use different tools to produce effective communication
- research, use, organize and evaluate the information and the acquired knowledge

Evaluation Plan:

The evaluation criteria take into account the knowledge of the contents, the acquisition of a working method, the mastery of the discipline specific language, the ability to read and give feedbacks about the artwork and to apply them to its artistic analysis.

Taking into account the objectives and the identified skills, each student will be evaluated according to the following knowledges/skills:

- how he/she knows the historical period and the artistic characteristics of reference
- how he/she reads an artwork
- However, the evaluation will not be limited only to these points, but it will also take into account:
 - the interest, the reliability, the diligence and the participation
 - the intuitions, the interventions, the contributions
 - the progress made from the starting level to the arrival level
 - the personal, educational and environmental past
 - the ability of self-evaluation

Planning

main group products	Brainstorming, discussions based on observation, gathering and selecting information
Individual projects	Finding as many links between the visual art and the microhistory of the period represented in The Diver's Tomb Symposium, 470 B.C.

Evaluation and reflections:

Rubrics(s) I will use: (check all that apply)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Critical thinking and problem solving -Creativity and innovation -Collaboration, teamwork and leadership -Intercultural understanding -Written and oral communication -Computer science and ICT technology
Other classroom assessments for learning: (check all that apply)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tests -Self-evaluation -Peer-evaluation -Oral presentations -Concept maps
Reflections: (check all that apply)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Survey -Focus Group -Discussion -Participatory lesson

Map of the project

Product :

Knowledges and skills needed	They have already learned	Taught before the project	Taught during the project
1. Research of historical information		x	
2. Research of artistic information		x	
3. Knowledge of the painting techniques of the period of reference		x	
4. Critical individual analysis			x
5. Comparing the collected information with the final work			x

RESOURCES:

Technology: PC, printer, USB and CD, IW, Facebook, platform

Community: researching material; collecting information in cultural facilities
(School or public library)

Materials: paper, pens, technological tools

Managing the process:

FIRST STEP: to provide basic information through a participatory lesson concerning the historical context (V century B.C.) and the artistic characteristics of the Diver's Tomb Symposium
To add to this information other results acquired independently by the students.

First step evaluation: to observe the behavior, the attitudes and the methods used in gathering information during the selection of the material independently collected by the students.

SECOND STEP: to understand, analyze and select the main elements in order to build a common framework which can be of support for the realization of the presentation of the artwork.

Second step evaluation: to create, also with group work, the basic structure for the presentation where to include the specific information related to the artwork (title, date, used technique, theme, description of the work ...) with a view to the eating habits of the period.

THIRD STEP: to select the information collected during the first step and to include it in the planned framework to complete the presentation of the artwork.

Third step evaluation: to observe the methods of selection of all the collected materials and to check whether the information has been correctly placed in the planned framework.

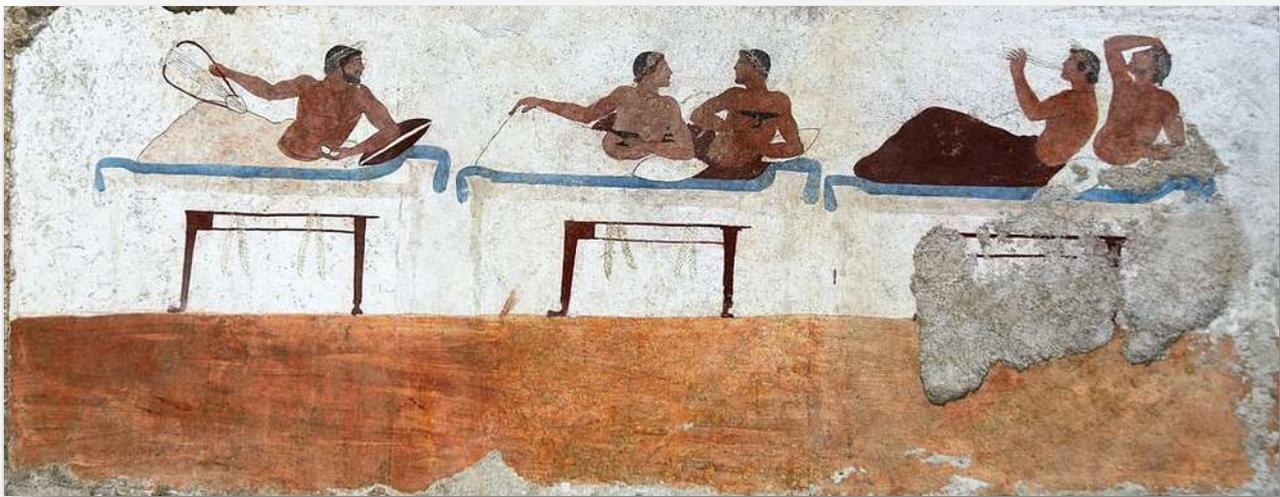
FORTH STEP: to present the work done and to discuss the results in the classroom.

Forth step evaluation: to correct the presented products and realize a self-evaluation in order to improve the achieved results.

Project evaluation:

The products will be presented and discussed with simple and clear terms to show how the artwork has revealed a reliable tool to understand the Food History and customs of the period. Students will be able to compare their initial level of competence with the final result and they will realize how their initial knowledge and skills have developed during the process of creation of their product.

After collecting and revising the students' critical analysis, in order to encourage a self-evaluation, analysis, reflections and suggestions about individual products will occur. Peer assessment and self-assessment. Final questionnaire for the evaluation of the whole project achieved by the students either by a colleague or by an external member through direct observation or analysis of the work products.



Title and Date	<i>The Diver's Tomb Symposium, 470 B.C.</i>
Author	unknown
Technique	fresco
Theme	Representation of Greek Symposium

THE ART TECHNIQUE AND THE AUTHOR

The "Diver's Tomb" found at Paestum in 1968, dates back to the fifth century BC and it represents an extraordinary document of what was to be the great Greek wall painting of that glorious century. In this work we find the same features paintings that covered the walls of public and religious buildings in Athens, other major cities on the Greek mainland, and in Magna Graecia. The fresco technique, in fact, characterizes the five slabs that make up the walls and the roof of this tomb only little larger than a sarcophagus. For each figure there is a preliminary layout: sharp is the outline engraved on the plaster generated by a rounded tip, followed by the color stain. The paint layer was carried out by at least two distinct artists. One emphasizes the monumentality of the figures, the other is closer to the decorative values. We can however remark that the ever-changing attitudes of the figures, their open mouths, their big, expressive eyes, the care in the anatomical drawing, the attention to the perspective effects, the vivid colors make this work mirror the painting of Polygnotus of Thasos, a well-known Greek painter and brass sculptor.

CUSTOMS AND HABITS. ARTWORK DESCRIPTION

In Greek culture stands out the importance of commensality and rituals associated with eating and drinking, all with a great social value, like the banquet, the symposium, the hospitality rituals, the feasts either civil or religious. The banquet, among the Greeks, amounts to one of the most important forms of socialization which is an integral part of the Polis' socio-political organization.

In Greece, but also in Magna Graecia in the fifth century B.C. the ritual of commensality is divided into banquet (*deipnon*) and symposium (*Symposion*).

In the Diver's Tomb 3 out of the 4 walls propose a symposium (Greek word for "drinking together"), that is the moment when, after the banquet, people used to drink. Above an other pedestal, are aligned beds called *klinai*. It was common practice to eat lying down according to a custom probably borrowed from the Phoenician world; the diners used to eat seeds lying on convivial beds. In the fresco four *klinai* are occupied by pairs of symposiasts; the other two, instead, accommodate only one commensal each.

The participants in the symposium, lying on blue blankets and with one elbow on a pillow, so as to keep the upper body raised, are bare torso. Their cloaks cover them from the hips down and their heads are crowned with olive twigs which also decorate the tables placed in front of the beds.

The symposium was always accompanied by music and singing. The musicians, mostly women, the ethers, to the sound of the double flute or harp accompanied the dancers' performances. Often came in also jugglers and acrobats to brisk the evening up. In the painting the players have laid down their instruments, while a young singer, accompanied by the sound of a double flute, is singing with a hand to his head tilted back, according to a traditional iconographic celebration that symbolizes the rapture during the singing.

Almost all the guests are holding a *kylix* full of wine. A young man with a light beard swings his, holding it with his right forefinger stuck in the slot of one of the loops, as typical of the *kottabos* game, repeatedly depicted in Greek pottery. The game consisted in the dexterity of hitting with wine leftovers a metal vase placed at a distance, making it sound: if successful, the participant could be certain his love would be reciprocated.