

Turtle Line Art

Grade 4 – Visual Arts



Lesson Details

Grade Level:	4	Curriculum Links:	Visual Arts, Science and Technology	Time Needed:	45 minutes
Learning Goal	To be introduced to the different styles of lines used in art to complete an image of a turtle's shell. Students will also learn the importance of a turtle's shell and the various characteristics of them.				
Success Criteria	By the end of this activity, students will understand the various styles of lines used in art and have experience drawing them, as well as learn the importance of a turtle's shell.				
Specific Expectations	<p><i>Visual Arts – Elements of Design</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create two- and three-dimensional works of art that express feelings and ideas inspired by their interests and experiences; • Use elements of design in artworks to communicate ideas, messages, and understandings; • Demonstrate awareness of the meaning of signs, symbols, and styles in works of art; • Use a variety of materials, tools, and techniques to determine solutions to design challenges: drawing, mixed media, painting, printmaking, and sculpture. <p><i>Science and Technology – Understanding Life Systems: Habitats and Communities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe structural adaptations that allow plants and animals to survive in specific habitats. 				
Materials Needed	Turtle Outline Worksheet (attached), Worksheet (attached), Pencil, Crayons, Markers, Pencil Crayons.				

Lesson Description

Overview	Turtles don't all have the same shells, so what makes them unique? Students will learn about this while also creating their own turtle art piece utilizing the different styles of lines.
Activity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To begin, introduce the various styles of lines used in art to the class (E.g. horizontal, vertical, diagonal, wave, discontinuous, zigzag, curved, thick, thin, etc.). 2. Next, introduce the activity. Students will use their knowledge of the different lines used in art to complete a turtle's shell. 3. Explain in detail the importance of a turtle's shell and the various characteristics of the shells of the 8 species of Ontario Turtles. For example, the Wood Turtle's shell looks like and has a texture similar to wood. 4. Distribute the materials and have the students begin their art pieces. 5. Finally, have the students complete their individual reflection worksheets (attached).
Background Information	The 8 different turtle species that are native to Ontario share similar characteristics, but the size of these body parts varies depending on the species use for it. For example, the Painted Turtle has a large plastron, allowing them to pull their arms, legs, and head into their shell when scared. But the Snapping Turtle has a small plastron which does not allow for them to pull their limbs in to hide – instead the snapping turtles 'snaps' to protect itself.

Lesson Description

	<p>The top shell of a turtle is called a carapace. The underside of a turtle is called a plastron. Many turtles have distinct carapace shapes (high domed like the Blanding's Turtle) or markings (like spots on the Spotted Turtle) that can be used to identify them. The triangular (or geometric) sections on the carapace are known as scutes. Marginal scutes are found around the carapace and ridges are the nodes (or connections) between them.</p>
Blacklist Masters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worksheet (attached) • Turtle Outline Worksheet (attached) • Video Link(s): Ontario Turtle Identification • For more information, please visit https://www.turtleguardians.com/sample-page/id-turtles/
Place-Based Learning	<p>Students are encouraged to visit a natural area after the lesson to find turtles and see their characteristics in person.</p>
Inquiry-Based Learning	<p>Using Guided Inquiry, the students will work independently to complete the worksheet and learn about the various characteristics of a turtle's shell as well as the various forms of line art.</p> <p>Ask the students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What body parts on a turtle help it to live within its environment? (E.g. Why does a turtle have a shell? What's the purpose of it?)
Turtle Stories	<p>Each species of turtle is different and carry their own unique set of characteristics. Now that you understand the various characteristics of a turtle, can you make a turtle from any other materials? Try making a turtle from only recyclables. Students are encouraged to share their experiences, pictures, and worksheets on the Turtle Stories website, found here: https://www.turtlestories.ca/</p>
Turtle Guardian Program Links	<p>In Level 1 (Ontario Turtle Identification) of the Turtle Guardian Program, students will learn how to identify all 8 species of Ontario's turtles. For more information, please visit https://www.turtleguardians.com/what-is-a-turtle-guardian/</p>

My Notes



Turtle Line Art Reflection

Q1. Which lines did you use in your art piece? Why?

Q2. Why is a turtle's shell important?

The shell acts like a piece of armor, shielding the turtles body from predators and other harms. He turtle's shell is not something that sits on top of them, but instead the shell is part of the bone structure and physically attached to the turtle's spine.

Q3. What is the difference between a turtle's shell who lives in the water most of the time compared to the shell of a turtle who lives on land most of the time?

The turtle who spends most of their time in the water, if not all of their time, will have a smoother shell that aids in gliding through the water faster and with ease. The turtle who spends most of their time, if not all of their time, on land will have a rougher shell for protection and camouflage from predators.

Q4. What did you like about your turtle? What would you change?



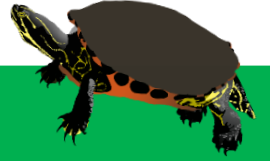
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Complete the turtle's shell using a different line in each scute!

