CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) & SOCIETY

Meini

- **This project seeks to address UN Sustainability Goal 3: Good Health and Wellbeing by helping students critically evaluate how Corona Virus impacts both the greater community and their daily lives.**

- **The unit integrates the art making technique paper collage with the digital tool Thinglink to create an interactive and informative image.**

- **Students research the virus and sourcing information from a variety of media for example; online news outlets, videos, social media, television, radio, magazines/new papers.**

- **Students can connect various human & non-human entities being impacted by spread of the Coronavirus.**

COLLAGE

Collage is a form of art that engages learners visual thinking skills. Deciding what types of visual elements to use as well as deciphering and assigning semiotic meaning to them also requires students to utilize critical thinking. Students participate in artistic practices such as composition, scale, and repetition, to name a few. The lesson here also provides opportunities for students to integrate their images into a digital medium collage process as well.

THINGLINK

Thinglink is an online learning platform on which images, videos, and 360/VR can be uploaded so that nodes (or markers things) can be added to them as overlays. The nodes or 'things' are used to embed a variety of elements such as web-links, audio files, images, and videos. Thinglink is free for educational use and can be easily integrated for teaching and learning.

VIRUS IN SOCIETY

The Coronavirus has become an international pandemic affecting many people and nations around the globe. It has also had a powerful impact on how societies function and other non-human entities as well. The project here aims to help students draw connections between themselves, how pandemics disrupt society, and all these are also linked to other non-human entities such as global warming and CO_2 emissions for example.

LESSON PLAN 1: COLLAGE

MATERIALS

- Old magazines or newspapers
- Scissors
- White sheet of paper A4 or larger
- Glue
- Smart phone or digital camera

ACTIVITY TASKS

☐ Think about what sort of information you are hearing and seeing that relates to the Coronavirus.

☐ Based on your thoughts find images relating these to the Coronaviris to use in your collage.

☐ Creatively arrange and glue the cut images together onto the A4 white paper.

☐ Take a digital photo of your collage and send to your teacher.

PROCESS

This project begins by creating a paper collage. A paper collage is an artist technique in which you assemble a variety of cut out paper shapes and images together to create a unified larger composition. Old magazines, news paper or even drawing an image onto paper and cutting it out can be used as visual materials in your larger image.

When sourcing your images to use in the collage think about things you have heard about as being impacted by the Coronavirus as they are talked about at home, in the news, online or radio, and across social media. You can also think about how the Coronavirus has impacted you and other close members of your family.

Using these ideas try to find images from old newspapers, magazines, and other paper items to use in creating your collage. Carefully arrange the items onto the paper thinking about and playing with the overall arrangement until you find the composition you are happy. Once they are all laid out you can being glueing them to the paper.

Once the image is done take a photo with a digital camera and send it to your teacher.

LESSON PLAN 2: LOCATING DIGITAL RESOURCES

MATERIALS

- Computer
- Method for sharing links, images, and audio files

ACTIVITY TASKS

☐ Based on the images in your collage try to find or create 3-5 digital resources that connect your image, the Coronavirus, and society.

☐ Copy the link and share it with you teacher. This can be done by copying and pasting the link into a Word file and then sharing the Word file through email.

Thinklink offers free accounts to educators. Teachers can select **Images** from the left-hand side and upload all of the students' collages to create one large image in Thinklink.

PROCESS

The second lesson in this project involves creating one large image in Thinglink that comprises all of the students collage works. The students will work on locating 3-5 digital resources to accompany their section of collage image. Digital resources include but are not limited to: web-links, voice recorded audio files, Youtube videos, links to on-line articles, etc. Be sure to check digital resources for validity by making sure that the producers of the content are reputable and recognizable.

Copy and paste the link onto a Word document. Below the link indicate in writing how the link makes references to the Coronavirus and society. For example; a link to an article about schools closing due to Coronavirus shows the impact of the Coronavirus on schools around the world.

Teachers will upload all of the students collage's into Thinglink to create one large image. The links sent from the students will be assigned to a node in Thinglink and the node will be placed on-top of that particular students section of the larger collage image.

Once all of the node with links have been added the Thinglink image can be shared so that all the student can explore the work.

LESSON PLAN 3: CONNECTING THE VIRUS TO SOCIETY

MATERIALS

- Computer
- Word Document

ACTIVITY TASKS

☐ Based on the images in your collage and the links that have been connected to them identify 3-5 different ways in which Coronavirus has impacted both humans & non-humans.

☐ Using complete sentences write out various connections. For example: *An image of a school building affects myself and students around the globe as attending school in person is not possible due to quarintine restrictions.*

DISCUSSIONS

The third lesson aims as connecting various human and non-human elements imaged by the Coronavirus. While many much of the impact of the virus has been devastating and negative it has also resulted in some more positive outcomes, like the drop in global C02 emissions. Students should write 3-5 sentences related to the image in Thinglink in which they draw connections between themselves, society, the Coronavirus, and other non-human entities.

Note:
The concepts and ideas shared in this lesson plan are provided as a guide. We at Meini encourage teachers to modify and change the implementation of these lesson plans in order to better fit their teaching needs.