

Attending a Fish Fry: Teaching Tips

Share the Fish Fry Vignette image (page 2) or project the slide in the PowerPoint. Give students time to respond to the vignette and share what they see/what it tells them.

Activities

1. Discussion questions 1 and 2 encourage students to think about their own family and community traditions. Follow up by having students write stories about family or community traditions.
2. Discussion questions 3-6 focus on historic sources. Lead a discussion about how we learn about history using primary and secondary sources. Share various examples and ask students to identify the examples as primary or secondary.
3. Discuss how the artist has used the elements of art and principles of design in this section of the painting.

Suggested questions:

- How did the artist create contrast?
- Can you find places where the artist has used light and dark values to indicate sunshine and shadows? Using these clues, where do you think the sun is?
- Are the people painted with great detail? What shapes did the artist use to indicate the people?
- If you were going to paint a picture of a family or community tradition, what would you include? How many people would be in the picture? What would they be doing? Where would it be? What season? How would you show the season in your painting? What time of day would it be? How would you show the time of day?

Break students into groups and give them time to brainstorm how they might represent a family or community tradition through an art work. Encourage them to talk about different media and processes they might use. Encourage them to make sketches of their ideas to share with their group.

4. Lead students (or ask the art teacher to lead students) in creating a work of art to represent a family or community tradition. Have them give their artwork a title and write an artist statement. Display the artwork and/or use it to illustrate their stories.
5. Write stories about family and community traditions using the instructions and materials provided in the accompanying special writing project packet.

