

Ode to a Food

Discipline: Art/Visual Art

Time Frame: 1 class session

Goal: To establish that art can be found in the everyday. To connect personal experience to Warhol's work and the idea of "Pop."

Objectives:

- Students will playfully explore the idea of "Pop" – learning about popular culture and gaining an understanding of Pop Art – by using their own experience as a knowledge base.
- Students look at Warhol's Campbell Soup painting and hypothesize about why he chose this as his subject matter.
- Students write short poems and draw pictures of their favorite foods.

Warhol Image Required for Activity:

Campbell's Soup Can (Pepper Pot), 1962.

Synthetic polymer paint on canvas, 71 ¾" x 51 ¾"

The Andy Warhol Museum Founding Collection

Materials:

colored pencils/markers

Ode to a Food template

Procedure:

1. Introduce students to Pop Art. Discuss the following text with students:

Warhol - Andy Warhol was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in the 1920s. He was a Pop Artist, which means he painted people, places and things that people in America see everyday. Things that are popular, such as movie stars, food products and pictures from the newspaper. He wanted to make art about things that we love to look at or have around us everyday. Warhol used pictures of these things to make his art, then add his own colors and lines to make it a little different from the original.

2. Have students look at the reproduction of Warhol *Campbell's Soup Can*. Introduce the story about Andy eating Campbell's Soup everyday:

As a kid Warhol lived in Pittsburgh. Legend has it that everyday when he came home from school he would be greeted by a bowl of Campbell's soup. Later, he said that he ate Campbell's soup everyday as an adult too.

Motivational Questions:

- Do you think this story is true? Why or Why not? What are some other reasons why you think Andy would have painted soup?
 - What do you eat when you come home from school? What are your favorite foods? What foods do you not like? Are there foods that have a special place in your life, that make you remember a special event?
 - What is an *ode*? How could Warhol's *Campbell's Soup* painting be an ode?
3. Pass out colored pencils/markers and "Ode to Food" template. Students write and draw about their own favorite foods. Encourage them to use descriptive language and to think creatively.

Wrap-Up:

- Have students share their finished "Odes" in front of the class.
- Discuss Pop Art with students. What are some other things that are part of popular culture, for example movie stars and products.
- If you were a Pop Artist, what would you paint? Explain why?
- Discuss students' choices of foods for their "Ode." Are these foods a part of popular culture? Why or why not?

Ode to a Food

A rectangular box containing ten horizontal lines for writing.

An empty rectangular box for drawing or illustration.