

HISTORIC MATERIALS

Overview

Students will explore the history of different materials and examine clothing as a primary source.

National Standards

- VA:Cn10.1.7a Individually or collaboratively create visual documentation of places and times in which people gather to make and experience art or design in the community.
- VA:Cn11.1.7a Analyze how response to art is influenced by understanding the time and place in which it was created, the available resources, and cultural uses.
- D2.Geo.7.6-8. Explain how changes in transportation and communication technology influence the spatial connections among human settlements and affect the diffusion of ideas and cultural practices.
- D2.His.9.6-8. Classify the kinds of historical sources used in a secondary interpretation.

Materials/Works of Art

Video of artist Shawn Baron Pinckney

Images of work by artist Shawn Baron Pinckney

Discussion

We can learn about the development, use, and availability of materials and technology throughout human history by studying clothing and textiles. Clothing and textiles reflect the materials and technologies available in civilizations across the globe in different time periods. The variety and utilization of clothing and textiles can also reveal social customs and culture.

- Use the HIPPO framework to analyse clothing as works of art and a primary source:
 - What is the historical context of the piece? What was going on when the source was created? How does this better help you understand the source?
 - Who is the intended audience? Identify the person or the group the author/creator expects to inform or influence. How does this impact the author/creator's message?
 - What is the artist or maker's point of view? Who is the author/creator? How did the author/creator's background impact their perspective?
 - What is the object or artwork's purpose? Why was this created?
 - What additional or outside information can you gather? What specific historical information outside of this source can you connect to the object/work of art? How does it better help you understand the object/work of art?

Think about the form and function of a garment. How are clothes designed for different purposes and activities? How are the materials connected to the function of a garment?



Activities

- Research the history of fashion and industrial technology to create a timeline of fashion eras and garment history. How did materials, ideas, and technology spread from one location to another throughout history?
- Explore the development of textile materials and manufacturing technology.
- Compare and contrast historic and contemporary versions of common garments (ex. socks). How have the materials and design changed throughout history?

Reflection

- How has technology changed the materials and production of clothing throughout history?
- How can a work of art and artists' materials function as primary sources that illustrate historical and cultural exchange?

Extension

Research and explore new clothing materials and manufacturing technology.

Visit <https://museumcollection.hagley.org/explore-the-collection> to view the Hagley Museum

collection and further explore the history of textiles.

Investigate the environmental impact of fashion trends and clothing manufacturing.

