

iCONN Learning Activity

Spanish Artists Reflecting Culture Through Art

Level: High School

Task: Prepare an oral report, in Spanish, on one of the following artists: Juan Gris, Diego Velazquez, Juan Miro, Bartolome Esteban, Murillo, El Greco, J. Ribera, Zurbaran, Goya, Dali, Picasso or Frida Kahlo.

Research Question: How does the art of famous Spanish and Mexican artists help you understand the culture of Spain or Mexico?

Content Area(s): World Language – Spanish

State Content Standard(s):

World Languages:

Program Goal: As a result of education in Grades K-12, students will gain knowledge and understandings of other cultures.

Standard 4. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the traditions, products and perspectives of the cultures studied.

iCONN Database(s):

General Reference Center Gold: This database contains full text articles from encyclopedias, reference books, newspaper references and periodicals.

Discovering Collection: This database contains reference articles, primary documents and multimedia sources. The articles are about history, literature, biography, science and social studies. The *Discovering Collection* includes resources on people, geography, history, literature, science and health.

Biography Resource Center: This database contains biographies, brief biographies, news and magazine articles and web sites on over 340,000 people throughout history and around the world.

Search Strategy:

1. Go to <http://www.iconn.org/>
2. If the list of databases is not already showing, click on “Select iCONN resources”
3. Open *General Reference Center Gold*
4. Use a *Subject Guide Search* (click on the Subject Guide search link)
5. Limit the search *to documents with full text*
6. In the *Subject Guide Search* box, enter the name of *YOUR ARTIST*
7. Click *Search* (or hit ENTER).
8. Look at the results list (The number of words is given so you can judge the length of the article. The list also contains the *type of resource: article, critical essay* and so forth.)
9. Open and read relevant documents

10. Print and/or email documents, as appropriate

Alternate Search Strategies:

1. Go to <http://www.iconn.org/>
2. If the list of databases is not already showing, click on “Select iCONN resources”
3. Open *Discovering Collection*
4. Enter the *name of your artist* in the search box. (The first search results are *Reference documents*.)
5. Look at the *Type of Article* on the far right, such as as *Document*, *Critical Essay* or *Narrative Biography* to see if the article is relevant to your task
6. Open, read and print relevant documents
7. Follow the same strategy for the resources listed under the *active (highlighted) tabs: Primary Sources* and *Multimedia*
8. Look at the *related searches* on the left (You can narrow your search by clicking on a *related search* located on the left of the results page.)

-- OR --

1. Go to <http://www.iconn.org/>
2. If the list of databases is not already showing, click on “Select iCONN resources”
3. Open *Biography Resource Center*
4. Enter *your person*, last name, first name such as *Esteban, Bartolome*, in the search for box
5. Click *Search* (or hit ENTER)
6. Look at the results list
7. Select from resources identified as a *Brief Biographies* or *Biographies*

Adaptations for Differentiated Learning:

Students having difficulty are given extra assistance.

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Revised by iCONN Staff, August 2008