

Lesson Plan Title: Qualities of Light**Author: Aileen Zeigler****Date: July 10, 2020**

Description: In this technology unit, students will discover the qualities of light and explore them by creating lighting looks with flashlights and gel samples.

Learning Outcomes:

Students will be able to demonstrate the qualities of light in order to create aesthetic lighting looks.

Grade Levels: 6-8**2014 National Core Theatre Standards:**

TH:Pr5.1.6.b. Articulate how technical elements are integrated into a drama/ theatre work.

TH:Pr5.1.7.b. Choose a variety of technical elements that can be applied to a design in a drama/theatre work.

TH:Pr5.1.8.b. Use a variety of technical elements to create a design for a rehearsal or drama/theatre production.

Time to Teach: 1 50 minute class period**Materials Required for Instruction:**

light sources - flashlight, theatrical fixture, clip light

objects to light- these should be proportional in size to your lights source, i.e. if using a flashlight use dolls, stuffed animals or toy furniture.

Color- gels, color changing fixture or other translucent material that can be used to change the color of light. (students used dish soap and water bottles at home during distance learning)

Opening:

Turn the lights off and shine a flashlight under your chin. Begin to tell a spooky story to the class.

Instructional Procedures:

1. Turn the lights back on. Ask students about the impact of the flashlight. Why does it cause a reaction in the audience? What is happening? They may notice the increased shadows, the darkening of the eyes, the focus.
2. Ask students for other ways in which you can manipulate lights. Intensity, direction, movement, color and texture. Name them for the students.
3. Separate the students into small groups and provide them with light sources and other materials for adjusting light, gels, tin foil, colored water bottles etc. Each group will also need a "stage" to light. Stuffed animals, dolls, acting figures, legos, etc. can work really well for this.
4. They should construct a basic scene with their figures.
5. Then as a group create 10 different lighting looks that use the 5 qualities of light. They can be presented live for the class or they can take a picture.
6. As each group presents, start off the questions/discussion focused on the qualities of light but shift into the impact of those qualities. What emotions are evoked by the lighting looks? What stories or characters do they remind you of? How does the character of the figures shift as the lighting shifts? Which looks and images are the most striking and connect with the audience? Could you use these looks in all types/styles of productions?

Qualities of Light: Intensity, direction, movement, color, texture

Functions of Light: visibility, mood, composition, focus, verisimilitude, unity

Assessment:**Checklist**

The group presented 10 lighting looks

All 5 qualities of light were presented at least once

They used collaborative creativity to produce variety in images.

Journal:

Please describe how you created your looks and what qualities of light produced each image. Answer the following questions about each image. What emotions are evoked by the lighting looks? What stories or characters do they remind you of? How does the character of the figures shift as the lighting shifts? Which looks and images are the most striking and connect with the audience? Could you use these looks in all types/styles of productions?

Please use the space below for suggestions for any adaptations or accommodations for inclusion of special needs learners.

For General Guidelines for Inclusion in the Arts, see [Guiding Principles for Inclusion](#) (*The National Core Arts Standards Inclusion Strategies*).

Please use the space below to list any suggestions for multi-cultural inclusions.

An important topic when looking at color in lighting is to discuss the effect of different color lighting on different skin tones. It is a lighting designer's responsibility to make all actors look good, not just white actors. Many theatres have shifted from using the McCandless amber and blue and instead use chocolate and purple as they are flattering on more skin tones.

Additional Tools & Resources:

<http://lightingdb.nypl.org>

<http://www.stagelightingprimer.com/index.html?slfs-angles.html&2>