

# Ms. B's Art on a Cart, Something From Nothing Lesson Plan

## Colored Pencil Mandala and Poetry Project

### Common Core Standards:

College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Speaking and Listening including comprehension and collaboration.  
College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Language including conventions of standard English, and vocabulary acquisition.

### NC Essential Standards

#### CX.1 Contextual Relevancy

Understand the global, historical, societal, and cultural contexts of the visual arts. Students will specifically learn about the history and origin and modern day applications of mosaics and mandalas.

#### V.1 Visual Literacy

Use the language of visual arts to communicate effectively. Students will expand their existing knowledge of the art elements and principles by applying it to mediums and content that they have not explored.

#### CX.2 Contextual Relevancy

Understand the interdisciplinary connections and life applications of the visual arts.

**Overview:** Mandalas are a part of the art and cultures of the Himalayan mountain region of Asia. Mandala means "circle" in Sanskrit which is an ancient language of that region. Both organic (freeform) and geometric shapes are typically used inside a circular shape to represent part of a culture or religion. Buddhist Monks still practice the art of making sand Mandalas.

### Resource websites:

[http://teacherpages.hallco.org/webpages/dpeake/imageGallery/SE\\_Asia\\_maps/SE\\_Asia\\_regional\\_map.jpg](http://teacherpages.hallco.org/webpages/dpeake/imageGallery/SE_Asia_maps/SE_Asia_regional_map.jpg)

<http://www.mysticalartsoftibet.org/mandala>.

<http://www.shutterstock.com/s/mandala/search.html>

### Questions for students:

What organic and geometric shapes do you see used in the mandalas?

What do you think these shapes might represent or symbolize?

What words would you use to describe your favorite mandala?

**Activity:** Supplies needed: pencils, colored pencils, mandala template, sample project

Think about a minimum of 4 things that are meaningful to you and how you would represent them in a drawing, symbol or color. Using the template and colored pencils fill in your mandala with patterns, shapes, symbols and colors that represent you and your life. Keep in mind that you must have radial balance. Repeat patterns throughout the template to give it rhythm and cohesiveness. 100% of mandala should be covered in colored pencil. No white space should show.

### Modifications:

**For younger students:** Review all geometric shapes. You may use geometric shapes only to create the mandalas. For **For older elementary students:** At the bottom of your page write a 4 line poem that helps readers understand your mandala's meaning. Use an AABB or ABAB Rhyme scheme.