Unit Plan Overview for Interdisciplinary Traveling Trunk

Title of Unit:  A Poet, A Potter, and A Slave: What David Drake Can Teach Us  (PART 2 of 2)

Grade Level:  8  Duration: One week for each

Developed by: Jennifer Gilmore

Magellan Scholar Project Mentor:  Dr. Tom Mack

South Carolina Academic Standards for two or more content areas:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Visual Arts</th>
<th>Social Studies</th>
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<td>8-1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4</td>
<td>8-1.3, 1.4</td>
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<td>8-2.2, 2.4</td>
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Summary of activities

Dave the Potter lived in Edgefield, South Carolina in the 1800s. It was quite unusual for a slave to be literate, but Dave was, and he inscribed distinctive couplets on his pots. In this unit, eighth grade students will learn about Dave and read examples of his poetry, such as:

Dave belongs to Mr. Miles
Where the oven bakes & the pot biles
31 July 1840

In this part of the unit, students will read literature circle books, learn about slavery, develop arguments, write a RAFT, learn pottery techniques, and make a coil pot. See also Part 1 of this unit (8PoetPotterUnitPlanELAScience).

Literature Circle Novels

(4 copies of each)

- Chains (Seeds of America)
- If You Lived When There was Slavery in America
- To Be a Slave
- Fredrick Douglass: The Last Day of Slavery

Text Set

- Dave the Potter: Artist, Poet, Slave
- Carolina Clay
- Fugitive Vision

Essential Questions

- Why was slavery accepted by some people during this time?
- Where was David Drake’s position (as a human, as a commodity)?
- What was David Drake’s perspective on slavery?
- How do form and function work together to make a valuable pot?
- How does one assign value to a David Drake pot?
## Vocabulary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Perspective</th>
<th>Commodity</th>
<th>Porcelain</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commodity</td>
<td>Clay</td>
<td>Pinch</td>
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<td>Antebellum</td>
<td>Coil</td>
<td>Slab</td>
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<td>Division of labor</td>
<td>Firing</td>
<td>Form</td>
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<td>Emancipation Proclamation</td>
<td>Kiln</td>
<td>Function</td>
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<td>Artisan</td>
<td>Wedging</td>
<td>Value</td>
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<td>Values</td>
<td>Aesthetic</td>
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<td>Middle Passage</td>
<td>Earthenware</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utilitarian</td>
<td>Stoneware</td>
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## Materials

- 9 Video (Slavery and the Making of America: Liberty in the Air)
- R.A.F.T activity supplies
- Pottery supplies (clay, toothpicks, glaze *optional)
- Internet links (see lesson plans)

## Activities

- Class will watch a slave history video together.
- After reading literature circle books, students will discuss what they learned in groups.
- Class will be led in a discussion of Dave and what perspective he has/brings to slavery by teacher.
- Students will bring in various containers from home.
- Students will make a coil pot and sign their name on it with a toothpick.

## Pre-Writing and Writing Activities

- While watching the video, students will write down 10 things that they did not already know about slavery (focusing primarily on perspectives).
- While students are in literature circle groups they depict which perspective(s) each book portrayed.
- Students will write arguments about David Drake’s perspective of slavery to defend and/or students will do a R.A.F.T. activity (roles being: any type of slave or slave owner).
- Students will write a paragraph about what they learned during the pottery lesson and illustrate how to make a pot.

Attached: Daily Lesson Plans