

Design & Write a Postcard

Grade(s): Lower Elementary (K-2), Upper Elementary (3-5)

Subject(s): Visual Arts, English Language Arts

Topic/Theme: Field Trip Reflection

Suggested Time: Short Activity (30 minutes)

Lesson Overview: In this activity, students will have the opportunity to recollect their favorite part(s) of their field trip by designing a postcard and writing a message to a friend. Students can use their favorite sign in our collection as inspiration for their design, as well as respond to provided guiding questions to help them craft their message.

Materials:

- Postcard template
- Coloring materials (i.e., crayons, markers, colored pencils, etc.)
- Scissors
- Optional: Guiding questions handout

Objectives:

- Students will be able to reflect on their field trip at The Neon Museum, as evidenced by designing a postcard based on their experience and by using guiding questions to write a message.

NVACS:

- Visual Arts Anchor 1: Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.
- K-5 Writing Anchor 4: Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.



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Activity Steps:

1

Provide students with a copy of the 'Postcard Template', coloring materials, and scissors. If possible, print the copies on a thick paper such as cardstock.

2

Have students choose a person that they will send their postcard to. Students can write the name of that person on the line following the word "dear".

It may be helpful to explain to students what a postcard is and what it is used for. If needed, briefly explain that a postcard is a rectangular piece of paper that is used to send a short message, usually via mail. On one side of the postcard, there is an image or picture of where the postcard is being sent from. On the other side, the sender writes a short message about their travels.

3

Have students reflect on their field trip to The Neon Museum and write about their experience on the lines provided on the right of the template. You can use the following guiding questions to help students reflect on their experience (these questions are included on the 'Guiding Questions Handout' and can be displayed for students if needed):

- What was your favorite sign at The Neon Museum? Why?
- What was your favorite part of the field trip? Why?
- What was one new thing you learned during the field trip?
- What is something you would like to see or do again at The Neon Museum?
- What is something that everyone should see when they visit The Neon Museum?
- Is there anything you still have questions about after the field trip?

4

On the lines provided on the left of the template, students can write the name of who they are giving their postcard to. Students can also write the recipient's additional information (i.e., address, classroom number, etc.) if they so choose.

5

On the back of their postcard, students can then draw an image that represents their field trip experience. If needed, you can direct students back to the 'Guiding Questions Handout' to provide them with ideas of what to draw.

6

Once finished, students can give their postcard to its recipient!



Guiding Questions



Use these guiding questions to help you design and write a postcard reflecting on your field trip to The Neon Museum!

✦ ✦ ✦
What was your favorite sign at The Neon Museum? Why?

✦ ✦ ✦
What was your favorite part of the field trip? Why?

✦ ✦ ✦
What was one new thing you learned during the field trip?

✦ ✦ ✦
What is something you would like to do or see again at The Neon Museum?

✦ ✦ ✦
What is something that everyone should see when they visit The Neon Museum?

✦ ✦ ✦
Is there anything you still have questions about after the field trip?