

Title: "Ivory Box"
Artist: Yourba People Africa

EALR'S: Arts

- 1.1.1- Understands art concepts and vocabulary, line, texture, color, value, shapes- geometric shapes (triangle, diamond, square....) and organic shapes, (curvy, natural look, flowing).
- 1.2-Understands art concepts and vocabulary, principals of organization. (Balance, proportion, movement.....).
- 1.3-Understands and applies art styles from various artists' cultures and times.
- 1.4-Applies audience skills in a variety of art settings and performances.
- 2.1- Applies a creative process in the arts.
- 2.3- Applies a responding process to an arts presentation.
- 3.1-Uses the arts to express and present ideas and feeling.
- 3.2-Uses the arts to communicate for a specific purpose.
- 3.3-Develops personal aesthetic criteria to communicate artistic choices.
- 4.2-Demonstrates and analyzes the connections between the arts and other content areas.
- 4.3-Understands how the arts impact lifelong choices.
- 4.4-Understand that the arts shape and reflect culture and history.

Text: The Yoruba people live on the west coast of Africa in Nigeria and can also be found in the eastern Republic of Benin and Togo. The arts of the Yoruba are as numerous as their deities, and many objects are placed on shrines to honor the gods and the ancestors. Students analyze the carved picture on a Yoruba ivory box and learn about ivory and the reasons for making decorative art. They identify the figures, patterns and balance in the carved box, describe the use of pattern and form in it and sketch outlines. A lesson idea would be to create three-dimensional plaques with hand prints and patterns.

Questions:

- 1. What do you see in this carving? Are there repeated patterns?
- 2. Who do you think the person is on the box?
- 3. What kind of tools do you need to carve?
- 4. Do we have symbols that represent things in our culture?