

Fifth Grade

Title: "Parade"

Artist: Lawrence Jacobs (1917-2000) African American, social themes.

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:

Jacob Lawrence paints mostly in tempera or gouache. This medium of paint demonstrates visually, the two-dimensional patterns that are represented in his subjects. In many of Lawrence's paintings including the "Migration Series" and "Parade", he makes little use of perspective. The colors that he uses in his paintings are rich and stunning. In "Parade" (1950), emphasis has been placed on elements of color and movement. This painting was influenced from an annual New Year's Day Parade in Philadelphia, and depicts what Lawrence portrays as visual "blues". The human subjects are so alive, rhythmically, that the "blues" music can be loudly heard, as the marchers move from foreground to background. He also tells the "blues" through the spectators who line the sidewalk, and complement the marchers in their bright colored uniforms.

Questions:

- 1.. What are the colors used by Lawrence in the painting "Parade"?
2. What are the spectators that line the sidewalk doing and what mood do they create?
3. What words would you use to describe this painting and what it is about?