An organizing idea or mental construct that is timeless and universal - powerfully linking various topics while crossing multiple disciplines of study.

What is a Concept?

Significant Question

What impact does adaptation have on cultures and environments?

What is a Significant Question?

Masterwork

Lucas
Chuck Close
1986 - 87
Oil and graphite on canvas

What is a Masterwork?

Click here to see the original photograph from which this painting was adapted.
Original photograph Chuck Close adapted for his painting of Lucas.
Adaptation Unit of Study Overview

Concept Exploration

Masterwork Experience

Inquiry Centers

Original Creation
Educators differentiate experiences for the visual, auditory and kinesthetic learners with arts-based skills & strategies. Whether physicalizing the concept through tableaux or adapting the color scheme of Vincent van Gogh’s *The Starry Night* - every student has an opportunity to express understanding.
Students used the artistic process of Chuck Close to appreciate his ability to create incredible paintings despite physical challenges.

Creating a connection to Close’s artwork deepened their understanding of the adaptation concept.
Rigorous unit design allows for active, intense and constructivist investigation during the inquiry phase of the model.

Collaboration, critical thinking, communication and creativity allow for a myriad of student and educator exchanges.

Integrated centers included:
- Plant Adaptations
- Animal Adaptations
- Adaptations in Literature
- Native Americans
- Literature Exploration
- Adaptations of the Cinderella Story
Students published a book of mixed media artwork and poetry showcasing animal adaptations.

Common Core Reading and Writing Production Standards fused with Life Sciences and Visual Arts Standards comprised the interdisciplinary construct.

A focus on academic vocabulary and artistic fluency empowered students to produce this rich and vibrant tome.