



MORRIS CENTER

FOR LOWCOUNTRY HERITAGE

Grade Levels:

Kindergarten-Twelfth

Duration:

5-10 minutes to introduce the activity

10-20 minutes for activity

10 minutes to share out at the end

Materials:

- Colored Construction Paper
- Construction paper crayons
- B&W Photocopies
- Scissors
- Glue
- Lined Paper
- Pencil/Pen

SC State Standards:

English Language Arts

(W) 3.1

Visual Arts

VA.CR.NM.1.1

Patchwork Stories On-site Lesson

Overview

In this study, students will explore the ideas discussed in *Beyond the Oaks: Lowcountry Plantations*. They will respond to the exhibitions through visual storytelling and writing, by creating a paper patchwork square.

This activity is facilitated during on-site visit to the Morris Center's *Beyond the Oaks* exhibition.

Learning Objectives

- Students will cultivate awareness of historic events in South Carolina with a focus on the plantation life.
- Students will practice using elements of art to create a paper patchwork square about plantation experiences.
- Students will practice writing skills by describing their patchwork square.



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Activity

- Introduce the activity to the students. *Today we will talk about what life on a plantation would have been like. We will use collage to make a patchwork square to tell these stories visually.*
- Discuss the focus of the exhibition with the students.
 - *What are plantations?*
 - *What did you learn about plantations today?*
 - *What was life like on a plantation for the owners and their families?*
 - *What was life like on a plantation for the enslaved?*
- *Now, we will use collage elements to create a patchwork square with paper. Select a photocopy of one of the images of plantations. Think about what a person living on that plantation might have felt. Think about that person's hopes and dreams. Think about that person's everyday life.*
- *You will now use scissors to cut out parts of the image to put on the "square." You will also use triangles and square pieces of paper to compose a patchwork square around the photograph, Glue down the pieces when you are satisfied with their placement. Use construction paper crayons to add details to your patchwork square. You can also add words.*
- *Now that you have a patchwork square, you will write about them. On a sheet of lined paper, write 3-4 sentences about the person/story that your square represents.*
- Students can share their stories and images to the class.



Family in front of a Slave Cabin



Planting Sweet Potato on an Edisto Island Plantation