

CLAY WORK, MISS RANDOLPH

Jan. 8, 1909 & Jan. 15, 1909.

TWO GROUPS OF FOURTH GRADE. 2 hours a week. The work is practically the same for the two groups.

The problem was a window box, one consisting of tile set in a wooden frame. The Fourth Grade children are to make the tiles in clay and the Sixth Grade Children are to make the frame in the woodworking department. They are going to make tiles enough for two boxes so that if the Sixth Grade children care to make a box for their own grade they will have enough. The tiles are to illustrate the story of Marquette and the Indians. First the children took measurements of the window and had a free discussion of the problem, the possibilities and the limitations to be considered. Sketching *designs* for the box. Discussion and criticism of drawings. Children voted upon the designs.

Next Lesson: Children made plans to scale of the design chosen for the box. At the Next Lesson they continued to work on these plans. Some of the children finished the plans and began sketching for the decoration of the tiles. The last lesson they had the problem of decoration of the tiles.

MISS HUGHES' GROUP of children is a group of left-overs, *and I have* given these children special exercises in modelling, for the purpose of having them gain control of the clay.

IN SEVENTH GRADE, TWO GROUPS, they have had exercises in modelling. The aim was to develop the child's ability to express himself in three dimensions. The work is preparatory to the illustrative modelling which is expected of them when they come to the Eighth Grade. Fifteen minutes of the period has been given to readings from the Story of the Potter, and the discussion of clay work in its relation to the development of civilization.

EIGHTH GRADE: Consisted of Individual problems in modelling in relief and in the round, *growing* out of the children's own interests.

CLAY-WORK, MISS RANDOLPH, TEACHER.

We are continuing the problems in clay that were reported
last week.

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CLAY WORK - MISS RANDOLPH

Jan. 29, 1909.

FOURTH GRADE: Two hours a week.

Problem. Construction and decoration of tiles for window boxes.

Technique. After the children had attempted the illustration of the story of Marquette and the Indians, they thought that their figures were not well enough drawn to be used as a permanent decoration on the box. In order that the decoration be made dignified enough I felt that it would take too much of the children's clay time for drawing, which is the function of the art teacher. Accordingly, the motive of decoration was changed to a nature study, which is in accordance with our general plan as outlined. The history subject had been taken as an experiment.

Another conclusion gained is that in history the interest is constantly changing as the history story advances, but in nature study the interest does not change. Partly because of a special interest growing out of an excursion, the children chose birds as the subject for the decoration of the tiles.

SEVENTH GRADE:

Subject. Elementary modeling.

Technique. The children have been working to finish their pieces, as they do not come to clay the rest of the year. One group missed one lesson this week, the day they attended the electrical show. There has been a constant growth of interest in the work, and the children have asked to form a clay-working club to meet for an hour after school once each week.

EIGHTH GRADE:

Modeling individual problems in round and in relief.

Technique. The children have been finishing their pieces in clay. Some of the children do not continue the work for the rest of the year. The children have written papers upon different topics in relation to the special subjects which they have been modeling.

The eighth grade have also asked to have a club.

CLAY WORK - MISS RANDOLPH.

Feb. 12, 1909.

FOURTH GRADE - two groups, two hours each group.

Subject: Modelling in high relief.

Technique: modelling of birds on tiles in high relief.

SIXTH GRADE - four groups, two hours a week each.

Subject: Greek Pottery.

Technique: The children finished the construction of the plaques and made drawings of the type forms of Greek Pottery upon them. One group missed one clay period this week because of Mr. Jones' lecture.

EIGHTH GRADE--four groups, two hours each.

Subject: Individual modelling in the round and in *relief*.

Technique Modelling continued.

On account of the holiday two sixth grade groups, one fourth grade group, one eighth grade group missed a clay lesson.

CLAY WORK - MISS RANDOLPH

Feb. 5, 1909.

FOURTH GRADE: Two Groups, Two hours a week for each group.

Subject: Tiles for window boxes.

Technique: Some of the children have finished their tiles for the box and are working on tiles "to take home". Upon these they are modeling birds in relief.

SIXTH GRADE: Four groups, two hours a week each.

Subject, Greek pottery.

Technique, in this grade the children study the history, life, customs, and literature of the Greeks. It is the art of the Greeks by means of pictures and available casts.

First we compared the art of the Egyptians with the art of the Greeks, emphasizing the fact that all art tells the story of, or is expressive of the life of a people. Then the children made notes of the discussion in the form of papers. These are to be followed up by the grade teacher for English work.

Then the children began plaques in clay which are to be used for drawings of the type forms of Greek pottery and border decorations. We hope to finish these in five lessons. Later the children are to work out their own original problems. Last year in the sixth grade the children tried to reproduce Greek shapes. While their interest in the work was exceedingly great, the pieces after all, were only imitations, and did not express much of the children's own life. This year we are going to try to use the Greek work more in a suggestive way.

Subject, individual modeling in the round and in relief.

Technique, No classes have been formed and most of the children of this grade are having clay for the first time this year. We are beginning simple exercises in modeling. Composition of flowers in relief. Some animals in the round, some cast modeling from Greek and Roman. This will occupy from two to three weeks' work, the time varying with the subject. This work is given as a preparation for some illustrative work which I hope to have the children do the last of the year.

CLAY WORK --- MISS RANDOLPH

Feb. 19, 1909.

FOURTH GRADE Two groups, two hours a week each.

Subject, modelling of birds, high relief on tiles.

Technique, Some of the children have completed the modelling of the birds, others are still working on them. The children who have finished their birds are doing various things until all the children shall be ready to take up a new class problem. One child is making a vase for his teacher, and others made a plaque and modelled Lincoln's log cabin upon it. Others are making candlesticks.

SIXTH GRADE: Four groups, two hours a week each.

Subject, Greek pottery.

Technique, the fastest workers have finished their drawings of the type forms of Greek pottery on the plaques. They have painted the scenes on the clay with slip made of a finely ground terra cotta clay, mixed with water to the consistency of thick cream. The slip was prepared by the children. A large number of the children have their drawings done and are ready to paint. Others have only just started with the drawings. The same group of children who missed clay because of Mr. Jones' lecture missed clay again this week because of a stereopticon lecture. Therefore this group of children are considerably behind with their work.

EIGHTH GRADE:

Subject, modelling in the round and in relief.

Technique four of the children have finished their relief modelling of the tulip and the narcissus from nature and have started with cast modelling. The advanced group are working from the classic models. The group of children who have just been promoted from the seventh grade are modelling animals and plant forms from casts.

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CLAY WORK --- MISS RANDOLPH.

Feb. 26, 1909.

FOURTH GRADE:

~~Two~~ groups - two hours a week each.

Subject: Modeling of birds in high relief on tiles.

Technique: The work of the week was covered in previous outline.

SIXTH GRADE: Four groups - two hours a week each.

Subject: Greek pottery.

Technique: With the exception of one group and the children who have been absent, the sixth grade have planned and drawn designs of vases suitable for building by hand, using the Greek shapes as motives for the designs, in so far as they could be adapted to built work. The work of the other children was covered in a previous outline.

EIGHTH GRADE:

Subject: Modeling in the round and in relief.

Technique: The work of this week and the next two weeks is covered by the previous outline.

CLAY-WORK --- MISS RANDOLPH.

March 5, 1909.

FOURTH GRADE:

Two groups, two hours a week each.

Subject - Modeling of the rabbit and subjects related to the Easter season.

Technique - Greater accuracy of modeling is required than in the lower grades. Special attention being given to the facts of form to develop definite ideas of form and thereby to secure a better technique.

SIXTH GRADE:

Four groups, two hours a week each.

Subject, Pottery building.

Technique;

The work of the week was covered in previous outline.

EIGHTH GRADE:

Subject - Modeling in the round and in relief.

Technique; The work of the week is covered by previous outline.

CLAY-WORK -- MISS RANDOLPH.

For two weeks, ending Mar. 19, 09.

FOURTH GRADE - two groups, two hours a week each.

Subject: Modeling of Easter subjects continued.

Technique: See previous outline.

SIXTH GRADE:- four groups, two hours a week each.

Subject: Pottery-building.

Technique: Continuation of work in previous outline.

EIGHTH GRADE:

Subject: Modeling in the round and in relief.

Technique: Continuation of outlined given in previous report.

One group missed one lesson because of the eighth grade party. In all the grades the children are working with the intent to finish their various problems before the Spring vacation, in order to take up new work after the Holidays.

CLAY-MODELING -- MISS RANDOLPH.

Report for two weeks, ending
April 9, 1909.

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FOURTH GRADE: 2 groups, 2 hours a week each.

Subject Modeling of the daffodil from Nature.

Technique This has been one of the most interesting problems the children have had.

They planted the bulbs early in the year and watched the development of the flower. Several of the children had expressed a wish to try to model flowers and we chose to do the daffodil. In this study the children discovered a number of new things in regard to the various ways of expression of the flower.

Literature studied in connection with the problem - Wordsworth's poem about the daffodils - "I wandered lonely as a cloud". This was recited by one of the children at a morning exercise prepared by the children during one clay period.

One clay period of the other group was taken for a bird walk over to Wooded Island.

The children also stopped twenty minutes early one period to take a trip down to the kiln room to see their "Easter Bunnies", as they came out of the kiln.

SIXTH GRADE: 4 groups - 2 hours a week each.

Subject - Pottery building.

Problem - A four-sided piece.

Technique - Considerable freedom was allowed in the kind of piece to be built as a number of the children had special purposes for the pieces which they wanted to make. This furnished opportunity for originality in their designs, greater control of the material as new difficulties came up in making the rectangular piece. The weaker children of the group and a number of children who have been absent are still working on the problem of the round vases.

Each group took a part of a period to go down to see their first pieces taken from the kiln.

EIGHTH GRADE: 2 groups, 2 hours a week each.

Subject - Modeling.

Technique - At the first period after the spring vacation, I gave the children a test - to see how they could express the daffodil in clay, the time given being forty-five minutes.

Purpose - to get back to quick expression after their slow, careful, and more studied modeling from casts.

The children showed a great deal of interest in doing this and the results were most satisfactory.

The second lesson we took up a new problem - a design for a decorative tile, the subject of the decoration to be taken from some phase of the history work of the group. Each child chose his own subject. The drawing of these designs occupied nearly two periods. The rest of the time the children spent in making the tiles in clay. The designs are not to be modeled in relief but merely outlined with small rolls of clay - then after they are fired, they are to be painted in different colored glazes.

CLAY MODELING - MISS RANDOLPH.

Report for two weeks, ending April 23, 1909.

FOURTH GRADE 2 Groups, 2 hours a week each.

Subject - Modeling

Technique - Continuation of the study of form in various animals - the children choosing from a group of animals the one they wished to model. One group are building vases of straight line designs, also flower pots or jardineres in straight lines. Also, individual problems allowed to individual children. The Fourth Grade were asked to give a clay exercise at the College Assembly - One period was taken for the preparation of this exercise and one period for its presentation.

SIXTH GRADE 4 groups - 2 hours a week each.

Subject - Pottery building. Application of design to the four-sided piece.

Technique - Continuation of the process of building a four-sided piece of pottery. The application of simple modeled designs. Some very good work has been done with this problem. The children show a great increase in their control and technique over their earlier work. A part of one period was given to waxing the pottery plaques upon which the children had previously painted the Greek pottery shapes.

EIGHTH GRADE 2 Groups, 2 hours a week each.

Subject - Modeling

Technique - Application of designs to the decorative tiles. The children have shown much interest in their selection of drawings for their tiles and in the way in which they have taken hold ~~in~~ carrying out the work. Unfortunately they have been interrupted in it ~~by~~ a rehearsal of the Gymnastic Meet program and ~~by~~ because of ~~my~~ appointment to speak upon the subject of Clay Work before the teachers at Hinsdale, Illinois.

CLAY-MODELING -- MISS RANDOLPH.

2 weeks ending May 7, 1909.

FOURTH GRADE:

2 groups, 2 hours a week.

Subject - Glazing of the bird tiles for the window box.

Technique - The children examined the materials which were used in the glaze mixture. They handled and compared them, in reference to fineness of grain, color and weight.

The processes of preparing the glazes were shown and tiles were glazed in the background color - the children being divided into groups for this work - one group glazed while one group worked on their clay pieces. Two periods were required for applying the background color to the tiles. One period was occupied in scraping the background color or glaze from the design on the tiles and another period was taken to paint the designs in another color of glaze.

The glazing delighted the children. After they had glazed their own pieces they begged to do those of the children who were absent.

SIXTH GRADE:

4 groups - 2 hours a week each.

Subject Pottery building.

Problem - A covered jar.

Technique - The making of a lid is the new feature introduced here. Size is the only limitation given for this problem.

The children chose the kind of jar they wished to make. General discussion of the problem of a covered jar. The planning of designs. This occupied one period. In a few cases where children are inclined to work mechanically, I did not require drawings on paper, but had the children work directly in clay. It will require from five to six periods to complete this problem, according to the difference in the shapes to be built.

EIGHTH GRADE:

2 groups, 2 hours a week each.

Continuation of work in previous outline.

Technique - Because the college class have to use the clay room on Thursdays, the eighth grade class have been spending one-half their clay period, on those days, in the laboratory down stairs - taking turns learning to work on the potter's wheel.

CLAY-MODELING -- MISS RANDOLPH.

May 15, 1909.

FOURTH GRADE - 2 groups, 2 hours a week each.

The work of the week was practically discontinued due to field trips, except for a few children who came up to finish their glazing.

SIXTH GRADE - 4 groups, 2 hours a week each.

Subject, Pottery building.

Technique . Continuation of the problem of the covered jar.

EIGHTH GRADE - 2 groups, 2 hours a week each.

Subject - Decorative Tiles

Technique - The children have completed the tiles. One-half hour spent in the laboratory working on the potter's wheel.

CLAY-MODELING -- MISS RANDOLPH.

May 22, 1909.

FOURTH GRADE: 2 groups, 2 hours a week each.

Subject - Modeling.

Technique - Study of form in plant life. Tulips from the school garden and plants gathered and brought in from the field trips.

SIXTH GRADE: 4 groups, 2 hours a week each.

Subject - Pottery building.

Technique - Covered Tar problem continued. One group spent one period preparing material for a morning exercise. This was planned to show what the sixth grade have been doing in clay.

EIGHTH GRADE: 2 hours a week each.

Subject- Modeling a Pottery building.

Technique - Since this problem is the last, the children have an opportunity of doing in clay in this school, they were given a choice between making some special piece of pottery and modeling something that they have especially wanted to make. One half hour given to wheel-work practice. The children have become so fascinated with this process that they never want to stop at the end of the period and they stay after school either to practice themselves or to watch someone else manipulate the wheel.

CLAY MODELING -- MISS RANDOLPH.

May 28, 1909.

FOURTH GRADE - 2 groups 2 hours a week each.

Subject Modeling

Technique Continuation of previous outline.

SIXTH GRADE 4 groups 2 hours a week each.

Subject Pottery building.

Technique The children have finished the required work.

After they glaze the pieces which they have built, the remainder of the time will be spent upon problems preparatory to the modeling which they will have next year.

EIGHTH GRADE 2 groups 2 hours a week each.

Subject Modeling or Pottery building.

Technique - Continuation of previous outline.

The children lost one period because of the eighth grade party.

CLAY MODELING - MISS RANDOLPH.

2 Weeks, Ending June 12, 1909.

FOURTH GRADE: 2 groups, 2 hours a week each.

Subject Modeling

Technique - The children have been very much interested in elephants. The interest growing out of their other grade work, - and they were very anxious to model the elephant in clay. They have been able to do good work, although they did not have a real elephant to work from.

SIXTH GRADE:

4 groups 2 hours a week each.

Subject Glazing

Technique The children glazed the biscuit pieces which they had made, cleaned the bottoms off and retouched the glaze for the firing after it had become dry enough to handle.

After this was completed the time was spent modeling.

EIGHTH GRADE 2 groups 2 hours a week each.

Subject - Casting and glazing of the Decorative Tiles.

Technique - As a number of the tiles were cracked or broken in firing we decided to make moulds from them and cast them in plaster. Accordingly each child has made a plaster mould of his tile and also a plaster cast. The tiles which fired well are to be glazed before the close of school.