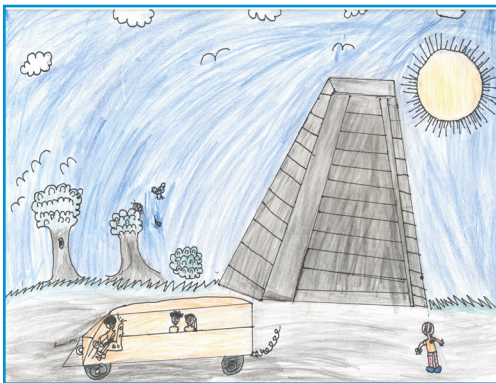




ThinkLink Lesson: Our Environmental Concerns

Based on 5 ArtLink Pieces from the 2019-20 International Art Portfolio

For students ages 9-13 years old



Mexico - Chichen Itza Pyramid



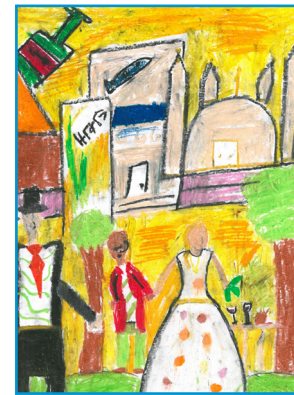
Russia - Keeping Forests



Spain - The View From My Window



England - The Future



Turkey - Did You Pray for Saving Nature?

Art and descriptions can be found at the end of this lesson.

Introduction

Young artists from Russia, Spain, England, Mexico, and Turkey have expressed their concerns for the present and future condition of the environment. They also shared ideas on things that can be done to preserve it.

Your Assignment

Review the art

Look at the first piece from Russia and guess what is going on and who the people are in the scene. Then read the description written by the artist named Daria to check out your guess. Review each of remaining pieces in the same way.

Locate each of the five countries on a world map



1. Russia
2. Spain
3. England
4. Mexico
5. Turkey

Answer these questions

1. Find the piece, by Humberto, showing tourists visiting a historic, Mexican cultural site.
 - a. What is the name of this site?
 - b. Which peoples built it in pre-Columbian times (before 1492)?
 - c. What is the family doing that is harming the environment?
 - d. What is the person on the right doing that is better?

2. Find the piece of Daria's where volunteers are doing something to restore the environment.

a. What are they doing?

b. What natural disaster caused the problem?

c. The disaster happened in what part of Russia?

3. Find Alp's piece with three Turkish people dressed in fancy clothes.

a. What are these people doing?

b. What do you think is the object in the upper left-hand corner?

c. Instead of partying, what does the artist, Alp, want us to do?

d. He cautions us about "forgetting everything except _____."

4. Find Iva's Spanish beach scene.

a. List at least five things the people are doing enjoying themselves?

b. What is on the wall separating the road from the beach?

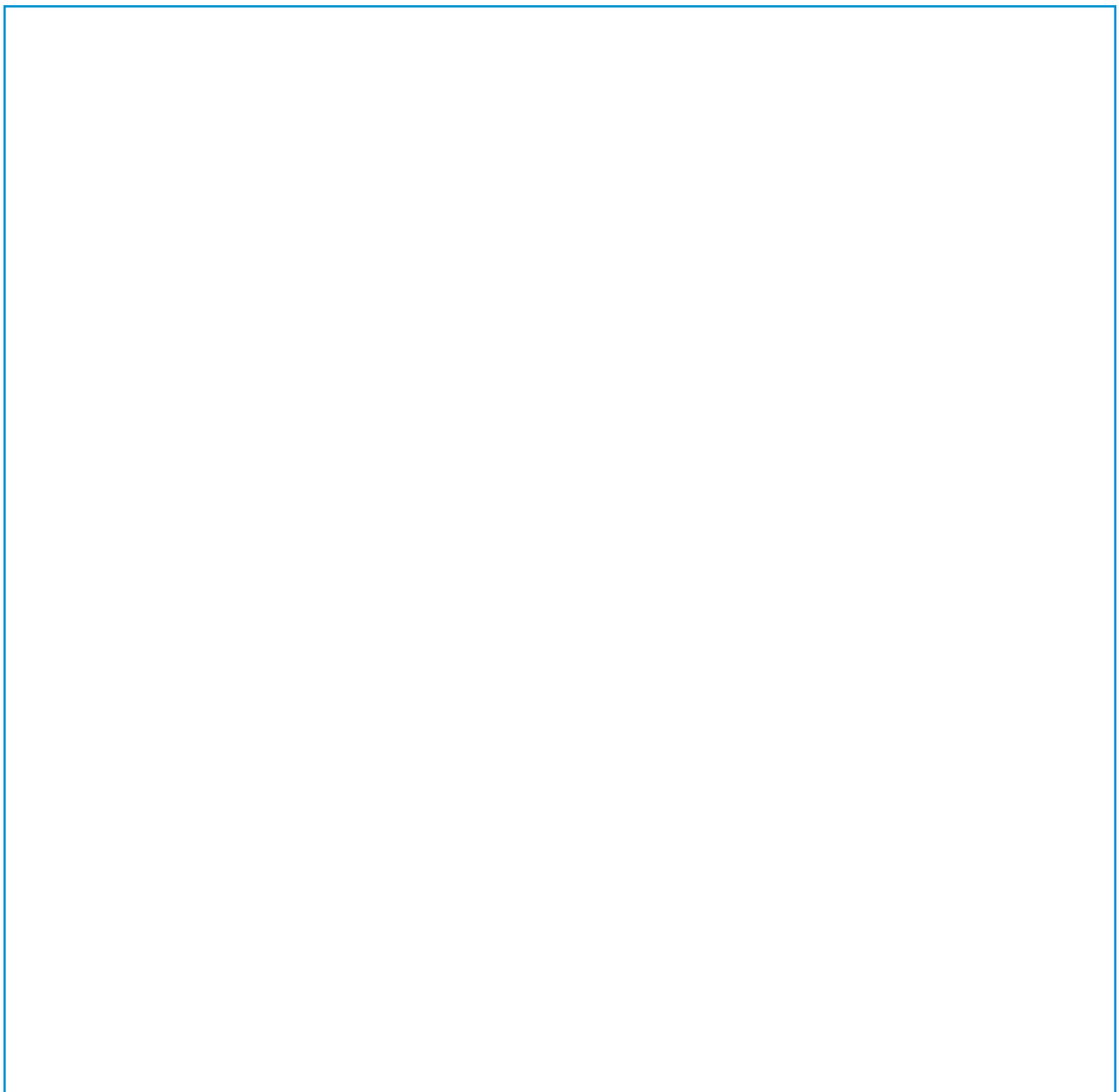
c. What environmental concerns does the artist have?

5. Find the piece of a face split in halves.

a. Why is the English artist, Shane, concerned about the future?

b. Describe some of the contrasting details he includes to make his point.

6. Using Shane's idea, draw, or describe in words, your own "50 years from now" scene, including any environmental changes you think might happen.



7. For fun, match the artists to something they particularly like.

Chicken soup
To paint
Dystopian books
Art
Dancing

Iva (Spain)
Daria (Russia)
Shane (England)
Humberto (Mexico)
Alp (Turkey)

Questions to think about

- a. The health of our environment can be harmed by natural or man-made causes. Can you think of examples of both? Which ones seem to threaten us more?
- b. Most of the artists wrote of ways they could help protect the environment. What are some of the ways you can think of? Which ones are you practicing now?



Title: The Future

Artist: Shane

School: St. Cuthbert Mayne

Medium: Acrylic, water colors

Age: 12

Country: England

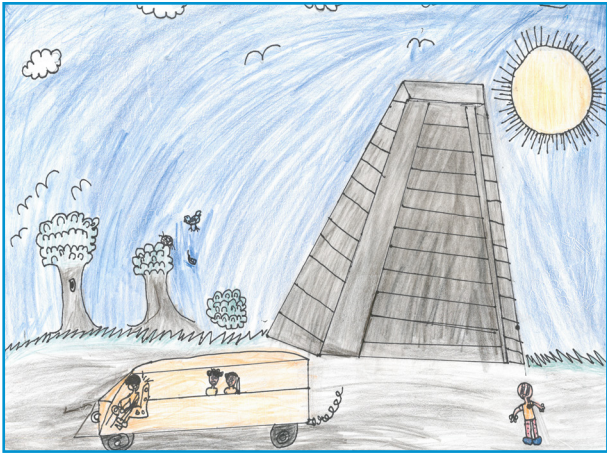
Description of Piece:

One side of the piece is the present time me and the other side is me in about 50 years. The value I am illustrating is the future and present. My scene is affected by the natural environment because in the futuristic part the sky it is seen with more smoke and gas. I am concerned about the future of our environment if we continue to pollute.

More about the Artist:

I live with my mum, dad, older sister and little sister, also my hamster. In my free time I like art and drawing. I love doing art, but I don't like French. When I grow up I want to be an artist.





Title: Chichen Itza Pyramid

Artist: Humberto

School: Centro de Estudios de Mérida

Medium: Color pencils

Age: 11

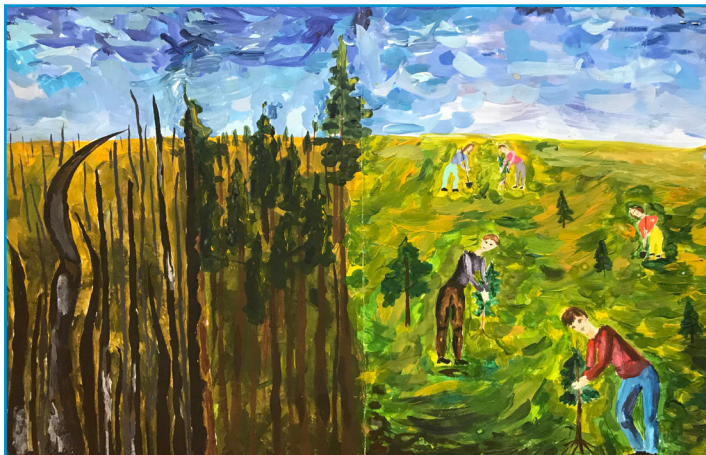
Country: Mexico

Description of Piece:

In my art piece I am with my family at the Chichen Itza. [The ruins were from a large pre-Columbian city built by the Maya people.] I am depicting the values of respect, empathy and solidarity. The environment affects my scene because the idea is to visit a cultural and touristic place without affecting its environment. I can help take care of natural spaces by not building in them.

More about the Artist:

I live with my mom, and my brother. My dad comes to the house every 15 days. I play basketball, soccer and I also ride my bike. I like to play drums and I like chicken soup, I don't like vegetables. When I grow up I want to be a professional basketball player.



Title: Keeping Forests

Artist: Daria

School: School 14

Medium: Gouache

Age: 12

Country: Russia

Description of Piece:

The summer was very hot this year and many forests in Siberia were destroyed by fires. It was a real disaster, so many volunteers tried to plant as many trees as they could. The value I am depicting is the importance of the greenery in people's lives. We have to plant new forests because of the fires. I can help preserve the environment by planting trees and to not pollute.

More about the Artist:

We are a family of four. My mother, my father, my younger sister and myself. My mother is an economist and my father is a director. I like to cook, to surf the internet and to play with my rabbit. My likes are dancing and hanging out with friends. My dislikes are doing homework and getting up in the morning. When I grow up I want to be a TV announcer or manager.





Title: The View from My Window

Artist: Iva

School: Santa Maria Del Pino

Medium: Markers

Age: 12

Country: Spain

Description of Piece:

The artwork shows a typical summer day at the beach from the window. We can see many tourists, a chiringuito (a small bar), wind surfers, sailboats and more. The ocean is colored in Gaudí style (a famous Spanish architect). The values I am depicting in my piece are kindness, courage, perseverance and honesty. Many tourists come to Spain's beaches every year but leave lots of trash. I can help preserve the environment by organizing beach cleanups with friends.

More about the Artist:

I have two younger siblings: 1 brother who is 5 years old and 1 sister who is 10 years old. I fight a lot with my sister but I get along well with my brother. I do a lot of sports and love reading in my free time. I like gymnastics, dystopian books, circus arts, sushi and helping the environment. I hate fish, I can't stand people who litter and dread boats because I get sea sick. When I grow up I want to be a circus performer in Cirque du Soleil.



Title: Did you Pray for Saving Nature?

Artist: Alp

School: D'Atelier

Medium: Pastels

Age: 8

Country: Turkey

Description of Piece:

You may be partying all the time. Forgetting everything except yourself...but then? If we don't preserve nature and the animals then the only thing left to do will be to pray for them and yourself. The value I am depicting is preserving the earth. If people don't care for the earth one day there will nothing left in our hands. I hope to preserve the environment by starting to do something.

More about the Artist:

I live with my family. I like painting. I dislike talking too much and talking loudly. I have not decided on what I want to be when I grow up.

