Salvador Dali: The Persistence of Memory

Grades: 1+ Time: 60 minutes

Final Product: Students create a distorted clock using clay that mimics the melting clocks in Dali’s most famous surrealist works.

Instructional Objectives:
The students will be able to...
1. create a distorted clock by sculpting and stretching clay

Materials:
1. Sculpey Clay (white, black, and one other colour of your choice)

Keywords:
1. Surrealism

Lesson Process:
Introduction (art style, artist, keywords):
Using information provided on smartartforteachers.weebly.com...
1. Introduce Surrealism
2. Introduce the artist: Salvador Dali
3. Look at examples of Dali’s surrealist paintings and discuss their common characteristics.
   Specifically show students many of his artworks that feature his melted clock.

Body (art project):
1. Give students each a big block of white sculpey
2. Get all students to create a thick white circle
3. Give each student some black sculpey clay
4. Get students to make clock hands and the numbers on their clock using the black sculpey
5. Stick the black sculpey clock hands and numbers to their white clock
6. Give students an additional colour to use as the outline for the clock. Have students outline their clock using a long thin piece of the clay
7. Once all students have a normal looking clock, have them pull and stretch the clock until it appears surreal
8. Teacher bakes the sculpey clay until they are hard

Suggestion for display:
- Display student work in a showcase with one of the following titles:
  - Grade ____ gets SURREAL
  - Dali’s Persistence of Memory
  - Surrealist Clocks
  - Dali Inspired Melting Clocks