

Useful, Beautiful or Both?

Pre-visit Classroom Activity

Objectives

1. Students identify useful and visually interesting features in everyday objects.
2. Students identify useful and visually interesting features in artworks.

Preparation

Preview the Useful, Beautiful or Both presentation. Decide if you will supplement the PowerPoint by bringing in everyday objects of interest to your students, such as plain and decorative mugs, boxes, thermos bottles, pillow, hats, etc.

Activities

As you show the presentation, lead students in a discussion responding to the questions. Ask students to practice identifying and describing the uses and visual qualities of any everyday objects you may have brought to class. You might expand the class to discuss numerous objects in the classroom, such as student and teacher chairs and desks, tables, cabinets, book bags, etc. Ask students to analyze both how they are useful and how they may also be visually interesting.