

Example Assessment

Personal Mandalas

This is an example classroom assessment created by Illinois educators as part of the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) Local Assessment Support (LAS) Project. ISBE encourages educators to modify example assessments to meet the needs of their individual educational context. Please note that the authors have provided suggestions for grade level use, applicable standards, data use, as well as possible accommodations, modifications, or alternative assessments. These suggestions are not inclusive of all possible uses and applications of this assessment.

This assessment serves as a possible example of a classroom assessment and its use is not required.

More information concerning the LAS project may be found here:

www.isbe.net/assessment/htmls/balanced-asmt.htm

Content: Visual Arts
Grade Level: Grade 4

Purpose

The purpose of this assessment is to provide evidence of student learning that will inform teaching practices, provide students with meaningful feedback, and inform students of their current level of achievement. Students will investigate different cultural representations of mandalas, demonstrate awareness and understanding of cultural patterns and symbols, and produce a personal mandala. A mandala is a circular geometric design that contains symbols of personal importance. Mandalas may include, but are not limited to, the following examples: Sanskrit Mandalas, Tibetan Sand Paintings, Navajo Sand Paintings, Mayan Calendars, and Labyrinths.

Standards

National Core Arts Standards:

- VA:Cr1.1.4a: Brainstorm multiple approaches to a creative art or design problem.
- VA:Cr3.1.4a: Revise artwork in progress on the basis of insights gained through peer discussion.
- VA:Re8.1.4a: Interpret art by referring to contextual information and analyzing relevant subject matter, characteristics of form, and use of media.
- VA:Cn10.1.4a: Create works of art that reflect community cultural traditions.

Data Use

Teachers may use this assessment to monitor student understanding and application of creating, responding, and connecting in the visual arts.

Accommodations, Modifications, and Alternate Assessments

Students may be allowed an extended period of time to complete assessments, as well as presentation, response, and linguistic accommodations.

Directions

Students will create a 12" x 12" mandala reflecting at least two symbols of personal importance using materials of their choice. In addition, the teacher may use the additional materials to support student understanding and artistic creation. All examples of student work may be collected in a portfolio. The teacher will use the portfolio rubric to evaluate student work.

Additional Materials

- Compare and Contrast Worksheet: Students may be presented with an example mandala and a different example of an artistic work that contains meaningful symbols (e.g., coat of arms, totem pole, etc.).
- Brainstorming Symbols Worksheet: Students may list symbols and reflect on their personal importance.
- Brainstorming Sketch Worksheet: Students may sketch ideas for their mandala.
- Peer Review Worksheet: Students may review their peers' brainstorming sketch, and revise their sketch based on insights gained through peer discussion.
- Mandala Portfolio Rubric: Teachers may use this rubric to evaluate student work.

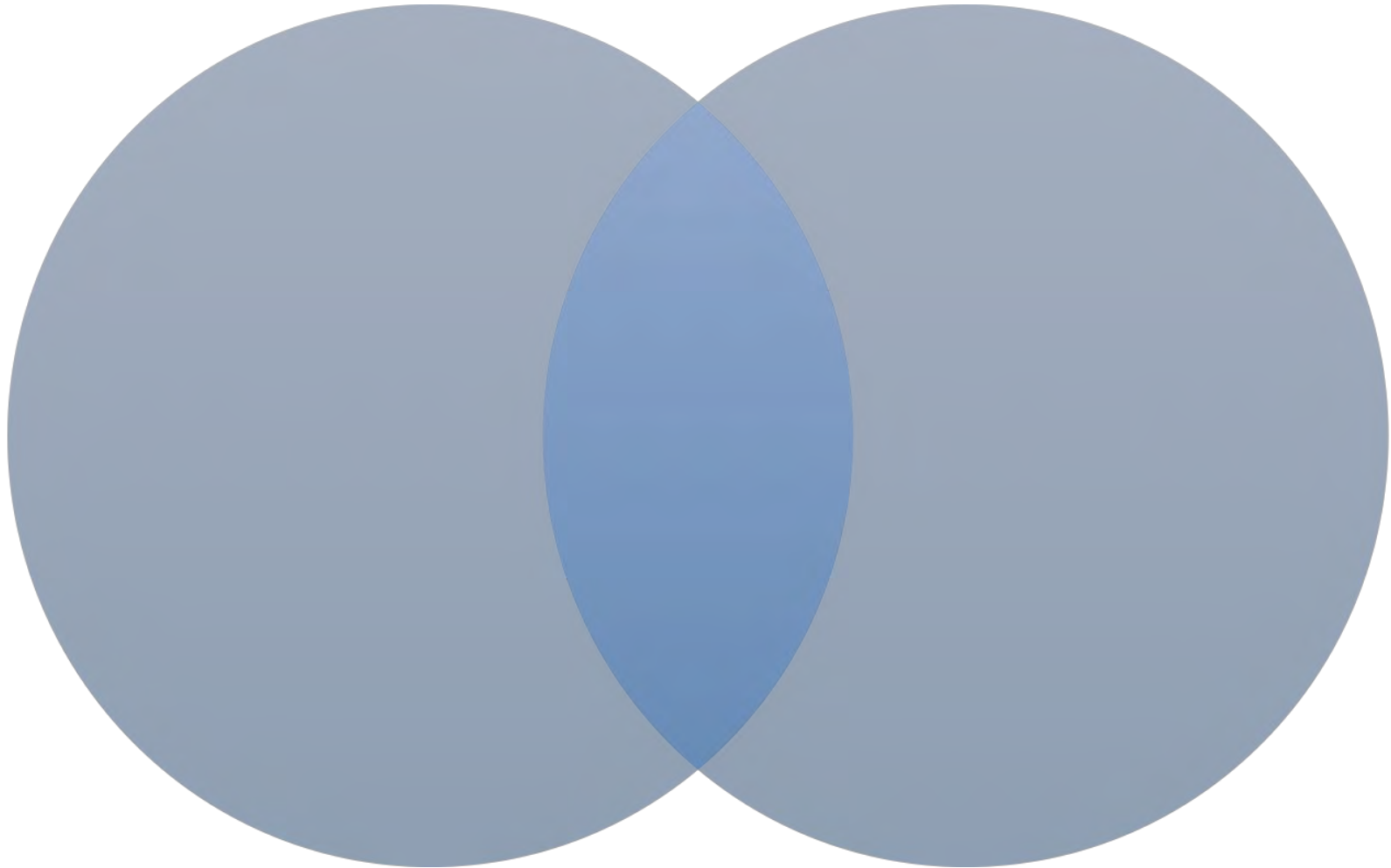
Additional Materials

Name:

Class:

Compare and Contrast

Directions: Use the diagram below to compare and contrast the examples.



Name:

Class:

Brainstorming Symbols

Directions: Brainstorm symbols that you may use in your creation of a mandala in the boxes below. Reflect on why each symbol is important to you.

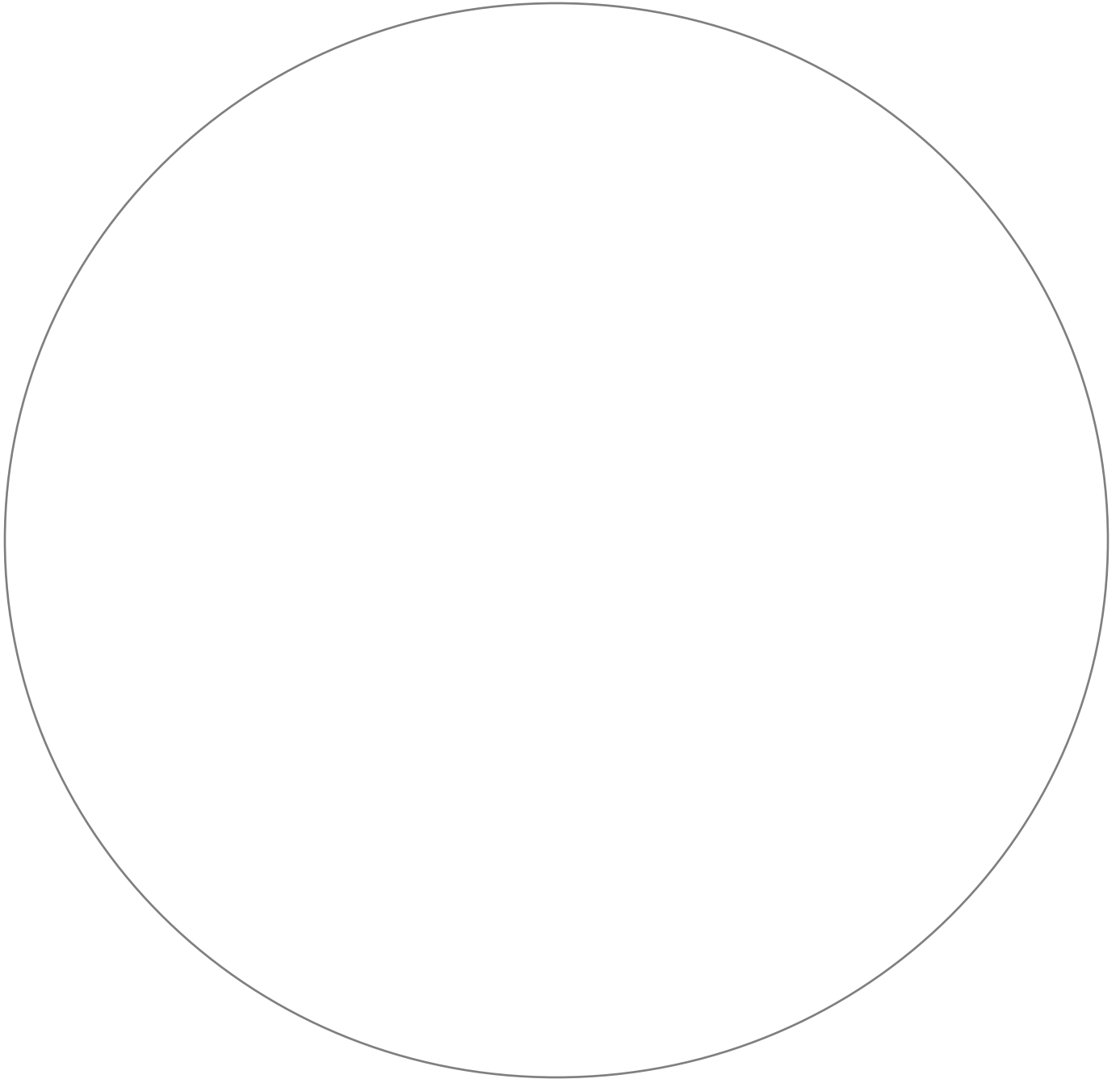
Symbol	Why is this symbol important to you?

Name:

Class:

Brainstorming Sketch

In the space below, begin your mandala sketches using the symbols and information you brainstormed.



Name:

Class:

Peer Review

1. Identify the symbols in your peer's artwork in the boxes below.
2. What is the meaning of each symbol?
3. Provide suggestions for the betterment of the artwork.

Symbol	Meaning	Suggestions

Name:

Class:

Mandala Portfolio Rubric

	No Evidence	Developing	Proficient	Advanced
Creating				
Brainstorming Symbols Brainstorming Sketch	Does not contribute symbols for the design of a personal mandala.	Contributes one symbol for the design of a personal mandala, and does not provide a rationale for the choice of symbols (i.e., why the symbol is important to the student).	Contributes more than one symbol for the design of a personal mandala, and provides a rationale for the choice of some symbols (i.e., why the symbol is important to the student).	Contributes more than one symbol for the design of a personal mandala, and provides a rationale for the choice of each symbol (i.e., why the symbol is important to the student).
Peer Review Brainstorming Sketch	Does not participate in the peer review process.	Participates in the peer review process, but does not revise artwork in progress.	Participates in the peer review process and revises artwork in progress.	Participates in the peer review process and revises artwork in progress on the basis of insights gained through peer discussion.
Responding				
Compare and Contrast	Student does not attempt to compare or contrast the example artwork or provide an interpretation of the symbolic meaning.	Student attempts to compare and contrast the example artwork using details about the subject matter, characteristics of form, or use of media.	Student compares and contrasts the example artwork using details about the subject matter, characteristics of form, or use of media, and attempts to interpret the symbolic meaning.	Student compares and contrasts the example artwork using details about the subject matter, characteristics of form, or use of media, and accurately interprets the symbolic meaning.
Connecting				
Personal Mandala	Student does not create or complete a work of art.	Student creates a work of art, but it does not include personally meaningful symbols.	Student creates a work of art that includes one personally meaningful symbol.	Student creates a work of art that includes more than one personally meaningful symbol.
Notes:				