

Title of Lesson

The creativity of the Congo

Background *(What museum artefact are you using for your lesson ? What curriculum areas does your lesson address, (eg History, Science, Language, etc.) ? What age range is your lesson suitable for ? What pre and post activities do you envisage? How will the work be assessed ?)*

12-14 years old

History

Spotlight on the collections of the Africa Museum in Belgium

https://www.africamuseum.be/en/discover/focus_collections

Students will become familiar with the creative and cultural elements recognised and put on display in the Africa Museum in Belgium showcasing the art and history of the Democratic Republic of Congo, a former Belgian colony. Upon learning about the art and objects made by the Congolese people which were multipurpose (with more than one use and significance), students will reflect on the elements of these works and what they could tell us about the Congolese people under Belgian colonial rule as a whole.

Learning Objectives *(What are the learning objectives addressed referenced to your own national curriculum ?)*

Core Skills – Non-core subjects: History and Geography (Basic education and the first stage of secondary school education)

<http://www.enseignement.be/index.php?page=24737&navi=31>

Students are expected to exercise the following skills:

- Chronological reference points months (Modern times and the Contemporary period)

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- Reading a trace of the past (objects, monuments, habitat, landscape features, toponym, old photos or postcards, testimonials, customs...): identify it and classify it according to its type, determine its origin and link it to a way of life and to its context.
- Comparing two documents (iconographic documents or objects) dealing with the same subject and two documents of a different nature dealing with the same subject.
- Situating facts experienced personally or by other people (chronology, frequency, duration, distance in time) and the evolution of these situations
- Identifying/comparing concrete aspects of way of life in society, in our regions and in others, taking into account the fact that our society is multicultural

Lesson Starter (*First 10 minutes : How will you begin the lesson in an engaging way ?*)

Begin the lesson with an introductory question to the class: Do you know what the Congo is? Do you know of its significance to Belgium? After a short discussion, play the following YouTube video to the class in order to better acquaint them with the plight of the Congolese people under Belgian rule in the 19th and 20th century.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BzBbd6JshYE>

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Main Activity (30 minutes : What is the task children need to do ? How are the children organized -pairs, groups, etc.? How is the work differentiated? What extension activity is there ?)

After the class has been introduced to some key concepts such as colonisation, exploitation and independence, you will focus their attention to the comprehension activity on the accompanying worksheet. There, they'll read about how the Congolese people managed to still develop their culture and creativity under colonial rule.

Plenary (10 minutes : How will the children share what they have learned ? How will you link back to the Learning Objectives ? How will you link to the next lesson ?)

In order for the class to understand the significance and attributes of the Congolese culture under Belgian rule, each sub-heading of the worksheet detailing a specific cultural/creative elements also contains discussion questions that should be paired with the corresponding museum artefacts (exact links are found in the Resources section below).

Resources (What is needed to run this lesson (eg PowerPoints, Worksheets, Ipads, Internet access, Video Projection, Interactive whiteboard, etc.) ? Attach example documents and jpeg of artefact.)

Youtube video on Leopold II's rule in the Congo as a Belgian colony

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BzBbd6JshYE>

Four examples of Congolese masks:

https://www.africamuseum.be/en/discover/focus_collections/display_object?objectid=29664

https://www.africamuseum.be/en/discover/focus_collections/display_object?objectid=29684

https://www.africamuseum.be/en/discover/focus_collections/display_object?objectid=29720

https://www.africamuseum.be/en/discover/focus_collections/display_object?objectid=30480

Four examples of Chokwe combs:

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https://www.africamuseum.be/en/discover/focus_collections/display_object?objectid=29640

https://www.africamuseum.be/en/discover/focus_collections/display_object?objectid=30453

https://www.africamuseum.be/en/discover/focus_collections/display_object?objectid=30455

https://www.africamuseum.be/en/discover/focus_collections/display_object?objectid=29638

Four examples of proverb pot lids:

https://www.africamuseum.be/en/discover/focus_collections/display_object?objectid=30591

https://www.africamuseum.be/en/discover/focus_collections/display_object?objectid=29666

https://www.africamuseum.be/en/discover/focus_collections/display_object?objectid=30425

https://www.africamuseum.be/en/discover/focus_collections/display_object?objectid=29712