WHAT IS COOL?

GALLERY

From the exhibition: Cars & Guitars

What is Cool? is a three-lesson unit plan designed in conjunction with the *Cars and Guitars* exhibition at the Gallery at Tempe Center for the Arts.

Present the ***Cars and Guitars* Exhibition Preview PowerPoint**.

Themes

- *Theme in Life*: Life is full of choices.
- *Theme in Art*: Artists create designs to influence us to choose (or like) one thing rather than another.

Key Questions

Lessons approach the themes through two key questions.

How do designers and artists arrange elements to draw (grab) viewers' attention?

What makes one thing look "cool" (excellent) and not another?

Community Connections

Everyday life in the in the Valley of the Sun is affected by past, present and future choices made by individuals, businesses, schools, community groups and city and state governments. Communities face important choices, such as how to improve and sustain the economy, education, the environment, safety and cultural resources. Leaders in these areas can use words and images in print and media to persuade people in their communities to support certain choices about these topics and issues. Learning how images and words influence us can help us make better, informed choices.

Lessons

One: What Shall I Choose? (pdf)
Two: Exploring the Cool Factor at the Tempe Center for the Arts (pdf)
Three: Design Your Own Fender® Stratocaster® (elementary or middle school) (pdf)
Four: Creating a Cool Cover (high school) (pdf)

Resources

Cars and Guitars Exhibition Preview PowerPoint
What Shall I Choose? PowerPoint
What Shall I Choose? PowerPoint – Beginner's Version

Exploring the Cool Factor at the Tempe Center for the Arts worksheet (pdf)
Design Your Own Fender® Stratocaster® PowerPoint (elementary or middle school)
Stratocaster® Guitar Template (pdf) (elementary or middle school)
Creating a Cool Cover PowerPoint (high school)
Questor Questions about Stratocaster® Design (pdf)

Supplies (Elementary or Middle School)
Assorted colors of construction paper
Scissors
Glue or glue sticks
Butcher paper (or large bulletin board) for display of designs of the entire class

Supplies for a High School Collage Project
Construction paper or other colored paper
Magazines
Printed or hand-lettered text
Photos or photocopies of photos of students
Markers
Scissors
Glue

Supplies for a Computer Project
Internet connected computer lab
Digital or scanned photos of students
Image editing software such as Adobe Photoshop or Adobe Photoshop Elements

Websites
Sample video by McClintock High School students

Credits
Fender Musical Instruments Corporation
Sucker Punch Sally's
Leanne Smith's students at McClintock High School
Nicole Granese, Arizona State University intern
Sally Carillo's 2nd grade students at Kyrene de las Brisas Elementary School

Estimated Time (Elementary or Middle School)
Previsit Lesson = 30-50 minutes
TCA Visit Lesson = Field Trip
Postvisit Lesson = 50 minutes

Estimated Time (High School)
Previsit Lesson = 30-50 minutes
TCA Visit Lesson = Field Trip
Postvisit Lesson = 300-600 minutes