



Interpretations

LESSON

LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT OUTCOME

Participants will explore new ways of thinking and embrace diverse ideas by coming up with stories based on abstract images.

MATERIALS

Collection of abstract images

AGE ADJUSTMENTS

This lesson is appropriate for all ages.

Lesson Plan

Introducing the Lesson

- Show participants a picture of a Rorschach ink blot.
- Ask participants to share what they see in the image.
- Explain that the Rorschach test is a tool psychologists use by asking people to try and interpret or make meaning out of a set of abstract images. If needed, provide the definition of an "abstract image": a means of depicting a visual image that does not have an immediate association with the object world (Wikipedia).

Experiencing the Lesson

- Have each participant find a partner.
- Give each pair a print out of an abstract image.
- Challenge each pair to come up with an interpretation of the image they were given. Encourage them to be as creative and out of the box as they would like.
- Give each pair ten minutes to come up with a name of the image and detailed description about their image.

Closing the Lesson

- Have each pair get together with another pair to share.
- Let pairs share the image they were given, and the name and description they came up with to the other group.

After the Lesson

- Consider hanging the images used in this lesson up around the room like an Art Gallery with the title and description next to each image. This can help serve as a reminder to think outside the box, come up with creative interpretations, and take on new perspectives.

Remind participants that the intention with abstract images is that there is no correct or incorrect interpretation, and they can be as creative as they want.



What abstract images should I use?

"The images in this lesson can be anything, ranging from art pieces from famous abstract artists to random pictures, like cloud formations. Or, keep the Rorschach theme going and use ink blot images."



Further Exploration

- Use this lesson as an opportunity to practice creative writing.
 - After coming up with an interpretation for the abstract images, have participants write a short story.
 - This can be done during the lesson or as a homework assignment to be shared at a later date.



Get Creative

- Have participants create abstract images for each other to use in this activity.
 - Give each participant an Abstract Imagery worksheet and some markers or colored pencils.
 - Have each participant create an abstract image.
 - Collect the worksheets, shuffle them, then randomly redistribute them to the participants.
 - Have each participant come up with an interpretation and a story for the image they were given.

Online

- To facilitate this lesson online, use screen sharing to show the initial Rorschach ink blot.
- Then share a Google Drive link, upload a PDF into the chat, or email each participant the image that they are to use during the lesson.
- Put pairs in breakout rooms to come up with the name and description of the image.
- Then, combine two of the breakout rooms so that each pair can share with another group what they came up with. Facilitators can also choose to have all pairs regroup as a whole to share.



Abstract Imagery

Participant 1: Draw an abstract image in the box below.



Participant 2: What is your interpretation of the image above?

Worksheet for: Interpretations