Activity: Artistic Response - Visual Art

Purpose: To create artistic representations based on a text.

1. Tell students that they are going to be artists in reading class! Artists are responsible for creating an artistic representation of a text.

2. Divide students into small groups that will read a shared text.

3. Students read the text and individually create an artistic representation of the text. Encourage students to use artwork in any medium (drawing, cutting, sculpting, and painting), music, drama (one-act play, puppets) or dance.

4. Students share their artistic representations with the members of their group. Invite the group to connect the artistic representation to their own ideas about the reading. Then the artist can share what his representation means, where it came from, or what it represents to him.

5. Complete this activity several times throughout the year and encourage students to try a variety of approaches to create their artistic response!

This is a great cross-curricular activity. Plan with your art teacher, music teacher, drama teacher, dance / movement teacher, etc.