

Arts Integration  
Project Description of Unit/Plan/Lesson

Date: 1/27/2012

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School Building: Discovery Elementary

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Description of the arts integration project:

Title of Project: "A Mastodon is not a Dinosaur!"

Arts Integration 102 Question to answer/document: How is the science understanding of Kindergarten students about mastodons and dinosaurs reinforced through their experiences with visual arts and dance?

Art forms: visual arts, dance

Content Areas: science (Is it Living?), literacy

Thumbnail:

"A Mastodon is not a Dinosaur!" integrates science and literacy Kindergarten GLCES with the visual arts and dance. Our students will be researching mastodons with our 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> grade buddy class, comparing and contrasting mastodons to mammoths and dinosaurs. The information our students gather will help them to write informative texts to share with other students and parents. Using dance, our students will help create and perform a "mastodon dance" incorporating information learned. Using the visual arts, our students will create mini mastodon displays. Students will participate in a fossil dig through the *Mastodon Matrix* program from the Paleontological Research Museum (Ithaca, New York), and will travel to the University of Michigan's Exhibit Museum of Natural History to visit our mastodon and take part in a museum program. We will showcase our learning during a performance of the "mastodon dance" at a special celebration for our parents and special guests.

Our project is scheduled to take place during January, February, March, and April.