

**Instructional Plan for *Royal Arches, Yosemite Valley, California*
Language Arts Lesson**

Objectives <i>Students will be able to...</i>	Maine Learning Results – English Language Arts	Activities	Assessments
Describe and interpret Bierstadt’s <i>Royal Arches, Yosemite Valley, California</i> , and discuss how the painting could be seen as a utopia.	Visual & Performing Arts Standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A2 Elements of Art and Principles of Design • D1 Aesthetics and Criticism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class discussion about <i>Royal Arches</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher observation and feedback • Class charts of the discussion
Use reading and discussion of several different picture and literature books to understand what a utopia is, the different kinds of utopias people have invented, and to form their own ideas for a utopia.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A1 Interconnected Elements (a, f) • A2 Literary Texts (a, b, d) Visual & Performing Arts Standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E2 The Arts and Other Disciplines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read picture and literature books • Work in groups to understand the utopia in <i>Weslandia</i> • Compare and contrast different utopias presented in the books with <i>Royal Arches</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher observation and feedback • Class charts of the discussion • Student writing - <i>Weslandia Worksheet</i> • Self-assessment of group work
Work in small groups to use adjectives and create descriptive word lists about nature inspired by books and <i>Royal Arches</i> .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D1 Grammar and Usage (a) Visual & Performing Arts Standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E2 The Arts and Other Disciplines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read Thomas Locker books • Compare and contrast Locker books and <i>Royal Arches</i> • Create descriptive word lists as a class • Write cloud sentences • Work in groups to identify adjectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher observation and feedback • Class charts of the discussion • Student writing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - group lists of adjectives - cloud sentences
Plan and write a short essay that describes the utopia they invented.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B1 Interconnected Elements (b, c, d, e, f, g, h) • B2 Narrative (a, d) • D1 Grammar and Usage (a) • D2 Mechanics (a, b, c) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the <i>Utopia Planning Worksheet</i> to identify the characteristics of their utopias • Work as a group to create the criteria for the <i>Utopia Essay Checklist</i> • Write a first draft and a final draft of the utopia essay 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student writing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Utopia Planning Worksheet</i> - Utopia essay • <i>Utopia Essay Checklist</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Self-assessment and highlighting elements - Peer review - Teacher assessment