Business & Computer Science

Brunswick School Department Graphic Design Selections, Tools, Layers

Essential Understandings	 It is important to gain mastery of selection tools and layers because almost every Photoshop project uses them. Photoshop layers offer a divide and conquer approach to even the most complex project because they allow one to focus on (and manipulate) individual elements within a larger project. Like art, what is good is subjective and difficult to put in words. One's technical skill and mastery of the software will be obvious by the outcome.
Essential Questions	 What is the best way to achieve quality in one's Graphic Designs? How can one begin to learn Photoshop and master its (3000+) buttons, filters, and tools without being overwhelmed? How can one best become knowledgeable and skillful in using Photoshop so one can stop worrying about technical obstacles and start focusing more on expressing one's creative ideas and designs? Which projects should one tackle in the beginning that will provide the essential tools in one's graphic design toolbox or personal repertoire?
Essential Knowledge	 Windows and menus have a common arrangement across a wide variety of applications. Learning how to learn new and complex software is a vital skill. Being able to select an object or element within a picture or photo is a skill that is useful for almost every graphic design project. Working one's way through the Photoshop toolbar is a good way to master the application in a more gradual fashion. Playfully selecting from a collection of objects and constructing a new design using multiple layers is a great way to start learning Photoshop. Trying to create a funny or interesting scene with a cantaloupe or pepper person and not on Photoshop directly makes the complexity secondary and places the emphasis on creativity and play. Shortcuts can be learned as one experiments with different selection tools, images, and layers. Knowledge of Photoshop layers provides a divide and conquer approach to complex designs.
Vocabulary	 Terms: magic wand, quick selection, magnetic lasso, move tool, layers palette, thumbnail, tile, transform, flip horizontal,
	scale, native Photoshop file (PSD), image file types

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Essential Skills	 Create a new project, name it, and save it correctly (file types). Select objects using selection tools and combine them to create new scenes and pictures. Use layers so each element can be transformed differently while remaining part of the whole. Use the move tool, selection tools, the layers palette, and thumbnails to compose a picture. Transform creative ideas into reality; imagine a funny or creative end result and go back into the Photoshop tools and menus to attempt to bring that idea to fruition, to life.
Related Maine Learning Results	Career and Education Development B. Learning About and Exploring Education, Career and Life Roles B1.Relationships among Learning, Work, the Community, and the Global Economy Students evaluate strategies for improving educational achievement, increasing participation as an involved citizen, and increasing work options and earning potential in a 21 st century global economy. B2.Skills for Individual/Personal Success in the 21 st Century Students evaluate strategies to improve skills that lead to lifelong learning and success in the classroom, and the achievement of schoolwork, work and career, and personal life goals. a. Literacy skills b. Numeracy c. Critical thinking skills d. Information and communication technology (ICT) literacy e. Interpersonal skills f. Other academic skills and knowledge B3.Education and Career Information Students use previously acquired knowledge and skills to evaluate and utilize a variety of resources to articulate a plan and make decisions for post-secondary education, training, and career choices.
Sample Lessons	 Provide students with a sheet of objects they must cut out using selection tools and assemble a collage into a new (original) design
And	or picture; the first image is affectionately referred to as
Activities	"Cantaloupe Person" and the second is "Pepper Person".
Sample	Authentic assessment is used. We learn to use Photoshop layers
Classroom	and tools by using them playfully.
Assessment	
Methods	
Sample	Other Resources:
Resources	 Teacher created materials and Photoshop C4 software