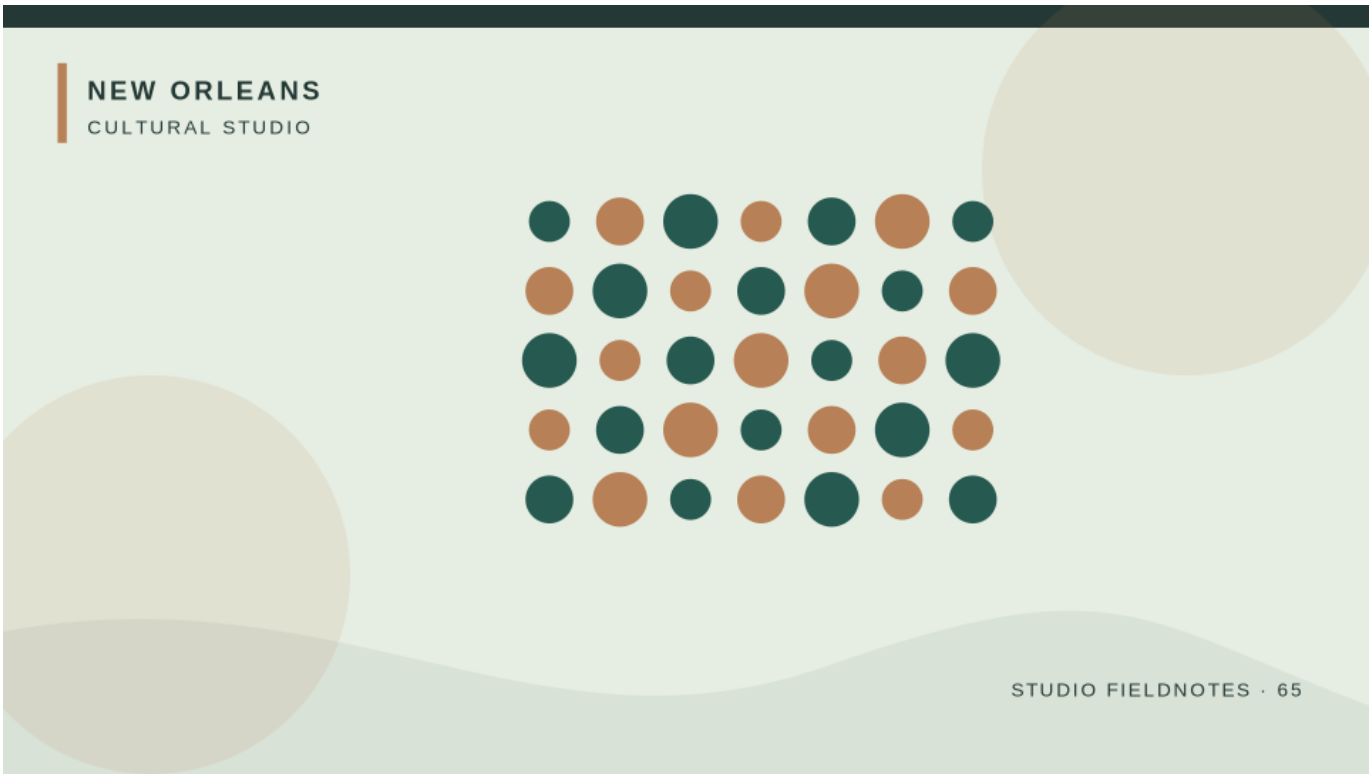
Black Masking: Labor of a Design

NEW ORLEANS CULTURAL STUDIO | LESSON 65 | GRADES 6–8 | STUDENT STUDIO BRIEF



Your challenge

Study interviews with Black masking artists, trace the design process and time investment, then develop an original personal-history textile or paper study.

Three questions before you begin

1. Who created the local art, object, or practice we are studying?
2. What will you make that is distinctly your own?
3. How will your audience know the meaning of your choices?

Investigate, sketch, choose

Collect two references with their creators or sources. Draw three small alternatives. Circle the one that best meets your idea and explain why.

Make and improve

Make an attributed process study and an original identity panel. During critique, identify a visual strength, ask one authentic question, and revise at least one part of the work.

Cultural care

Do not copy specific suits, tribal marks, ceremonial imagery, or claim the student work is masking regalia.

Studio planning space

Reference 1 (name, creator/organization, source): _____

Reference 2 (name, creator/organization, source): _____

Thumbnail 1: what will the viewer notice?

Thumbnail 2: what will the viewer notice?

Thumbnail 3: what will the viewer notice?

Reflect

I changed _____ because _____. The source that helped me understand this work is _____. Next time I will improve _____ by _____.

Caption your final work with your title, media, main idea, and attributions.