Tremé Front Steps

NEW ORLEANS CULTURAL STUDIO | LESSON 52 | GRADES K–2 | CULTURE & SOURCES

Context before technique

Tremé is a historically significant New Orleans neighborhood with deep Black cultural life; examine how homes, steps, and public space invite connection.

Whose story is being told?

Teach this lesson through identified New Orleans institutions and, where possible, community-authored testimony. Name the people, places, and historical context in your examples. Explain what remains unknown or contested.

Responsible artistic engagement

Do not depict residents without permission or treat Tremé as a costume or backdrop.

Visual permissions

Do not download photographs or artwork from source websites for public display unless permission or a valid license is confirmed. A live research link is not a license. The included lesson illustration is original conceptual artwork and not historical evidence.

Starter research sources

HNOC: Social Aid and Pleasure Club Narratives

https://hnoc.org/club-narratives

Preservation Resource Center: Neighborhood architecture

https://prcno.org/help-for-homeowners/historic-districts-neighborhoods/french-quarter/

Louisiana Visual Arts Benchmarks

Louisiana Department of Education arts standards (official PDF)

Discussion prompts

- Who created or maintains this tradition, space, or object?
- What do outsiders often overlook?
- Which images would require permission, and whose voices are missing?

Teaching note

These starter sources support inquiry, not a complete ethnography. Prioritize up-to-date local perspectives and appropriately compensated cultural partnerships when possible.