FREE TEACHING RESOURCE / 9–12 / 49

Posters for Community Information

TEACHER GUIDE • lesson design & facilitation

Grade band: 9–12 | 6–8 sessions, 50–70 minutes

Media: drawing, collage or digital layout tools; optional ruler and test print

The artistic problem

Design a clear evidence-based poster for a community information question.

Essential question: Can a persuasive image remain accurate, legible, and inclusive?

Place-based cultural lens: Study public notices in New Orleans and compare audience needs across settings.

Learning targets

- Investigate the question: Can a persuasive image remain accurate, legible, and inclusive?
- Apply typographic scale, visual hierarchy, data checking, color contrast in a deliberate original composition.
- Use critique evidence to improve typographic scale and name one next step.

Student-visible success criteria

- The final artwork solves this problem: Design a clear evidence-based poster for a community information question.
- Artwork includes a verified claim, two audience tests, and a revised graphic hierarchy.
- Process evidence shows three different options before selection.
- Visual decisions demonstrate typographic scale and support the intended audience.
- Feedback results in at least one visible revision that the student can explain.

Standards & studio habits

Louisiana 9–12 cluster: VA-CE-H1, VA-CE-H2, VA-CE-H3, VA-CE-H7, VA-AP-H6

Studio Habits of Mind: Understand Art Worlds, Develop Craft, Express, Engage & Persist, Reflect. These habits are developed interactively, not in a fixed rank or sequence.

Instructional alignment: Louisiana benchmark codes are official broad grade-cluster benchmarks; specific expectations are developed locally. The ten instructional stages come from the supplied Artistic Investigations framework.

Preparation & materials

- Drawing paper or sketchbook for idea studies
- drawing, collage or digital layout tools; optional ruler and test print
- Samples and images from reliable sources, with attribution
- Tools appropriate to local safety rules and grade level

- Choice of visual, oral, or written reflection tools

10-stage teaching sequence

01 / Engage Present the artistic question: Can a persuasive image remain accurate, legible, and inclusive? Give students two contrasting examples that do not dictate a finished product.

02 / Investigate Study public notices in New Orleans and compare audience needs across settings. Gather visual evidence and note what is observed rather than assumed.

03 / Skill Studio Demonstrate typographic scale, visual hierarchy, data checking, color contrast. Make thinking visible by testing two alternate solutions and identifying what each communicates.

04 / Generate Develop three possibilities for the challenge: Design a clear evidence-based poster for a community information question. Change the focal point, material, arrangement or viewer perspective between drafts.

05 / Plan Compare sketches to the success check (a verified claim, two audience tests, and a revised graphic hierarchy); choose a direction and state why it better communicates the intention.

06 / Produce Produce an original visual response using typographic scale, visual hierarchy, data checking, color contrast; conference on one technical choice and one contextual question.

07 / Critique Partners identify where the artwork communicates the intended idea and locate evidence of typographic scale in the work.

08 / Revise Revisit the specific checkpoint: A verified claim, two audience tests, and a revised graphic hierarchy. Make one visible change after critique and preserve the initial view for comparison.

09 / Present Present with a title, medium, one key artistic decision and any needed credit or contextual limitation.

10 / Reflect Reflect: What evidence proves you improved typographic scale? What will you try or investigate next?

Studio sessions & evidence checkpoints

Session	Teaching move	Capture evidence
Day 1	**Locate the problem** Can a persuasive image remain accurate, legible, and inclusive?; Study public notices in New Orleans and compare audience needs across settings.	Initial inquiry and positionality check.
Day 2	**Source and context audit** Evaluate evidence, stakeholders, permission or material constraints.	Source log with known/uncertain claims.
Day 3	**Investigate technical options** Demonstrate typographic scale, visual hierarchy, data checking, color contrast. Make thinking visible by testing two alternate solutions and identifying what each communicates.	Material trials and design comparison.
Day 4	**Generate + plan** Three robust concepts with intended audience and criteria.	Annotated concepts and rationale.
Day 5–6	**Build and document** Develop work with dated process notes and ethical checks.	Progress photos, source credits, technique notes.
Day 7	**Critique + substantive revision** Test with peers for communication and context; revise typographic scale.	Feedback and before/after comparison.
Day 8	**Present + evaluate** Curate for audience and acknowledge limitations.	Rubric, portfolio record, and next investigation.

Key technique to model

typographic scale, visual hierarchy, data checking, color contrast

Access without lowering the artistic goal

Offer multiple languages and low-literacy approaches; test meaning with others. Offer physical samples, captioned images, accessible demonstrations, flexible planning modes, and alternate materials while retaining the common visual learning target.

Teacher coaching questions

- What is the visual problem you are solving?
- Which decision communicates your intended meaning most clearly?
- What does your reference prove, and what are you still imagining?
- What could a viewer misunderstand?
- What visible revision will strengthen your next version?

Cultural care

Do not publish medical or emergency guidance without qualified source review.

Stretch & explore

Adapt the poster for a small mobile screen.

Design provenance: Original Studio Fieldnotes investigation developed for the 50-lesson library; informed by the teacher-supplied ten-stage Artistic Investigations architecture and reflective Studio Habits framework.