

Viral Imaginations: COVID-19

Visual Analysis of *Viral Imaginations*: Fears, Needs, Desires, Hopes, Experiences

Level: Grades 7-12

Lesson Objectives:

- Students will engage in visual analysis.
- Students will compare and contrast art to identify themes.
- Students will investigate how art can be interpreted in many ways.
- Students will produce their art, reflecting on their own pandemic experiences.
- Students will participate in the creation in the historical archive of pandemic art.

Materials Needed:

- Access to [Viral Imaginations](#) website
- Access to a shared google slides site. [Example linked here.](#)
- Art making materials of your choice

Summary of Tasks/Actions:

- **TEACHER PREPARATION:** The teacher learns about data visualization as an artform by reviewing:
 - NAEA Webinar 2018 Recording "[Data Visualization: Creating Dialogue](#)"
 - NAEA Webcast 2020 Recording "[Is It Art? Data Visualization: How Does Data Visualization Align with the National Core Art Standards?](#)"
 - [K-12 Resources on Data Visualization](#)
- **INTRODUCTION:**
 - The teacher will introduce students to [Nina Katchadourian's](#) art, charts & systems, [Genealogy of a Supermarket](#)
 - The teacher will introduce students to the [coronavirus tracking site](#) created by [17 year old Avi Schiffmann](#).
 - The teacher will introduce students to the [Viral Imaginations](#) website as the data source.
- **VISUAL ANALYSIS PROCESS**—Ask students to:
 1. Select images from the viral imaginations archive. <https://viralimagination.psu.edu/visual-art-gallery/>
 2. Drag and drop to one of the large themed slides. [Example](#).
 3. Resize images to smaller.
 4. Insert link on image to hyperlink the image back to the source with full description at the *Viral Imaginations* site.
 5. Add a text box when several are placed to note a particular thread, lineage, direction, or pattern.
 6. Add line connectors to the images.
- **DISCUSSION:** When themed slides are filled ask students to consider the following questions:
 - Why did you select the art as examples of conveying fears, needs, desires, hopes, and/or experiences of the COVID-19 pandemic?
 - What are the fears, needs, desires, hopes, and/or experiences of the COVID-19 pandemic conveyed in the mapped data sets of art selected for each themed slide?
 - When the same artwork is on a different themed slide has its meaning changed? Why?
- **ARTMAKING:** Ask students to create their own art conveying fears, needs, desires, hopes, and/or experiences of the COVID-19 pandemic. Encourage students to upload final images to Viral Imaginations website at <https://viralimagination.psu.edu/submit/>