



# Care, Healing, and Well-being

**Some artist-built environments were created to foster well-being. In this lesson, students will use inspiration from these sites and contemporary artists to design a space or an object that promotes care for themselves or others.**

## Essential Question

How can I care for myself or others with art?

## K-3 Adaptation

- How can creating art make me feel happy?
- What art could I make for someone to show them that I care about them?

## Objectives

- Students will demonstrate an understanding of the concepts of care, healing, and well-being through art making.
- Students will analyze and discuss one or more of the inspiration artists and demonstrate an understanding of how care connects with their artwork.
- Students will design and create an object or space that promotes care for themselves or others.
- Students will reflect on their process and final product through writing or discussion.

## National Core Art Standard Connection Visual Arts/Connecting#VA:Cn10.1

**Anchor Standard:** Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art.

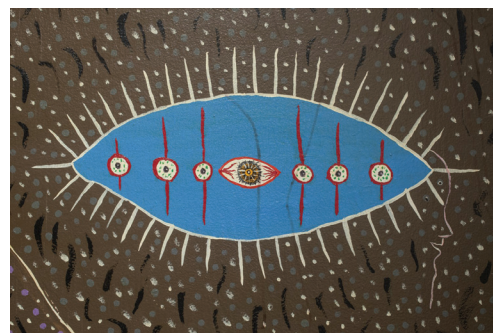
**Enduring Understanding:** Through art making, people make meaning by investigating and developing awareness of perceptions, knowledge, and experiences.

**Essential Questions:** How does creating art enrich people's lives? How does making art attune people to their surroundings? How do people contribute to awareness and understanding of their lives and the lives of their communities through art-making?

**This lesson was developed with feedback from Wisconsin art educators Ben Jerry and Kate Arvold.**



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K-12

# John Michael Kohler Arts Center

1 Emery Blagdon, "The Healing Machine" (untitled individual component), c. 1955-86; metal and mixed media; 26 x 21 1/2 x 21 in. John Michael Kohler Arts Center Collection, gift of Kohler Foundation Inc.

2 Gregory Van Maanen, untitled (detail), c. 1983; paint on wood; 72 x 36 in. John Michael Kohler Arts Center Collection, gift of Kohler Foundation Inc.

# Overview

## Discuss

**Present information about one or more of the inspiration artists. Then have your students individually reflect, discuss in pairs or groups, or discuss as a class:**

- How did this artist (these artists) care for themselves or others through their artwork?
- How do you take care of yourself? (for example, when you are having a bad day, feeling sick, or are sad)
- How do you take care of others?

Expand on any of these discussions using your typical discussion or sketchbook routines to connect to other topics or subjects students are studying in your class.

## Create

Choose one or more art media, based on your curricular goals, to have students complete the objective: Students will design and create an object or space that promotes care for themselves or others.

See suggested ideas below for possible projects or starting points for a project.

## Suggested Projects

- Inspired by Dr. Charles Smith, Gregory Van Maanen, and Emery Blagdon, create an artwork or series of artworks about a topic that is meaningful to you and you want to share with others.
- Inspired by Carl Peterson and Loy Bowlin, design a space that will bring people joy to look at or visit.

## Artists

- Emery Blagdon
- Loy Bowlin
- Carl Peterson
- Dr. Charles Smith
- Gregory Van Maanen

## Vocabulary

- Care
- Healing
- Well-being
- Three-dimensional art
- Two-dimensional art
- Mobile
- Sculpture
- Site Specific



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