

**Exploring Rural Kentucky Through Documentary Art:
Creelsboro Landing, 1890s - Documentary Art Interactive
Unit 1 - Lesson Set 2 - Fishing
- For the Teacher -**

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES – Visual Art and Theater

Responding: Access the Powerpoint - [*Creelsboro Landing, 1890s* - Images for Projection](#). Ask students what is happening in this vignette and what they see in it that makes them think that.

Dennis Thrasher likes to leave room for the viewers of his paintings to use their own imagination to interpret what might be happening in a scene. Ask students what they think the two men might be talking about. What do they see that makes them think that? What is the relationship between the two men? What do they see that makes them think that? What might happen next?

Ask students to work in small groups and imagine the exchange between the two men. Ask them to improvise a short scene, beginning with the men's stance and gestures and then adding movement, dialogue, props, even additional characters if they want. Students can take different roles in creating the scene – director, script writers, prop and set designers. Ask them to be sure to consider the timeframe of the painting (the 1890s) as they develop the script.

Allow time for students to complete and rehearse their scene and then perform it for their classmates.

Discuss how many different interpretations there were of this one vignette. Discuss why a documentary artist might want to leave some things in their paintings open to the imagination of their viewers.

Visual Art and Theater Standards

Anchor Standard 1: Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.

Anchor Standard 2: Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.

Anchor Standard 3: Refine and complete artistic work.

Anchor Standard 4: Select, analyze, and interpret artistic work for presentation.

Anchor Standard 6: Convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work.

Anchor Standard 7: Perceive and analyze artistic work.

Anchor Standard 8: Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work.

Anchor Standard 10: Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art.

Anchor Standard 11: Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural and historical context to deepen understanding.