

UNIT OVERVIEW

Walter Anderson was an artist who lived and worked primarily on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. His choice to live in a fairly isolated area along with his need to forsake the company of humans in order to "become one with nature" has kept him from being recognized as a major artist of the 20th Century. More and more people are coming to realize the genius of Anderson through published works documenting his paintings, sculptures, and prints, as well as the public murals he created. His legacy is preserved through museum collections, family trusts, and private collectors. Through this unit of study, the authors hope to inspire an understanding, appreciation, and love for the work of Walter Anderson, and recognition of the beauty and majesty that is found in nature.

ABOUT THIS CURRICULUM

In this unit, students will learn to analyze Walter Anderson's personal style and express their own interpretations and style through a variety of subject matter and media.

Students will identify common threads that run through Anderson's work and will apply these ideas to their own works. Anderson kept detailed journals of his experiences and about his work. In this unit, students will complete writing exercises that will allow them to become introspective about works of art - their own and that of others - by keeping a journal of their experiences. Lesson one focuses on history, criticism, and aesthetics and forms the foundation for the remaining lessons. Students will utilize a variety of media and techniques including drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, and ceramics while using nature and their own communities as subject matter to create their own works of art.