Fracking: Integrating Text and Photos

Lesson Overview: Class will investigate fracking using both informational text and artistic photographs.

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Subject(s): ELA, Arts Integration

Suggested Grade Level(s): 4th – 8th

Time Duration: 1 40-45 minute class period

Common Core State Standards Addressed:

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI Standard 7

- Interpret information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively. (Grades 4-5)
- Integrate information presented in different media or formats as well as words to develop a coherent understanding of a topic or issue. (Grades 6-8)

Objectives:

- Students will create a list of guestions sparked by the photographs.
- Students will read the article and summarize the process of fracking.
- Students will draw inferences based on the photographs.

Materials:

- Printed article: http://www.sciencenewsforkids.org/2012/07/fracking-fuels-energy-debate-and-controversy/
- Terry Evans photographs, to be projected for the class: http://cae.nevadaart.org/search-archive/?s=2013-02

Activities and Procedures:

- 1. Class looks together at one of Terry Evans' photographs, for example *Scott's Appaloosas*.
- 2. Teacher models thinking aloud, "This photograph makes me feel peaceful. The green grass and calm white horses put me in a peaceful mood. I have

- a question, too, about this photograph. Why are the horses lying down? Are they resting? Are they sick?"
- 3. For each subsequent photograph, teacher asks students to identify feelings created by the photograph and asks for questions that come to mind when looking at photograph.
- 4. Teacher lists questions on chart paper.
- 5. Students read aloud or buddy read article on fracking.
- 6. Students share out a quick summary of what they read.
- 7. Class returns to photographs to see if they can answer their earlier questions or add more information to their original questions.