Printed Student Edition:

Task: Witness Blanket

The Witness Blanket is a large scale art installation created by Master Carver Carey Newman (Ha-yalth-kingeme). He describes his art as “A blanket with the sole purpose of standing in eternal witness to the effects of the Indian Residential School era – the system created and run by churches and the Canadian government to “take the Indian out of the child”.”

Artists use their imagine and talents to express themselves. The Emily Carr University of Art + Design is a well-known art school in Vancouver, BC.

This could be you!

What You Will Do...

<THE HOOK>

In this task, you will use several mathematical competencies to examine the Witness Blanket. You will look for mathematical patterns in the art. Start by making an in-depth study of one section of the blanket. Next, use mathematical thinking and problem solving to create a scale plan for a work of art inspired by The Witness Blanket.

- Analyze and interpret art using mathematical language.
- Use proportional reasoning to create your own piece of narrative art.
### What You Need to Know...

| Part 1: Examine the Witness Blanket | □ How to determine the ratio of the numbers of each type of shape (Chapter 7, section x.x)  
| | □ How to identify a pattern (Chapter 6, section x.x)  
| | □ How to describe the Witness Blanket using mathematical language |
| Part 2: Plan Your Art | □ How to describe a ratio (Chapter 7, section x.x)  
| | □ How to describe a fraction (Chapter 4 and 5, section x.x)  
| | □ How to describe a percent (Chapter 8, section x.x) |
| Part 3: Create Narrative Art | □ How to represent a ratio (Chapter 7, section x.x)  
| | □ How to represent a fraction (Chapter 4 and 5, section x.x)  
| | □ How to represent a percent (Chapter 8, section x.x) |

### What You Need to Show...

Your final presentation must contain:
- A written response showing the answers to the questions.
- A brief description of the story your art tells.
- An explanation of how your art meets the criteria.
- Your narrative art.

Complete the Self-Assessment Rubric for your task.
CONNECT content:

The Witness Blanket

Part 1: Examine the Witness Blanket

1. Look at the detail in several sections of the Witness Blanket. Try to imagine what the artist and the contributors were trying to represent in the objects and the shapes found in the Blanket.

2. Examine the far left section of the Witness Blanket. Look for squares, rectangles, and one other shape of your choice. Count the number of each complete or partial shape. Find the ratio of the numbers of each type of shape. Is there a pattern to the numbers of different geometric shapes?

3. Imagine planning the layout of the Witness Blanket. Describe three places in the Blanket where the artist would have used math skills to create the shapes. Use mathematical language to describe a problem the artist had to solve and the process he might have used to solve the problem. For example, he wanted a five sided wooden block, how would he know at what angle to make the cuts on the wood?
Part 2: Plan Your Art

4. In Part 3, you are going to construct a piece of narrative art. Narrative art tells a story or a number of stories like the Witness Blanket does. You choose the topic. You can draw, cut out images, attach objects or use any art form to communicate the story.

5. Look at the narrative art shown below. What portion of the image is dark colours? What portion is light colour? What do you think the story is about?

![Narrative Art Image]

Part 3: Create Narrative Art

6. Create a piece of narrative art that meets the following criteria:
   - the ratio of any two colours is 3:2
   - \( \frac{4}{5} \) of the scene is encompassed by a circle
   - 20% of the image is white

Presenting Your Project

Your project must contain:
   - A written response showing the answers to the questions.
   - A brief description of the story your art tells.
   - An explanation of how your art meets the criteria.
   - Your narrative art.

Complete the Self-Assessment Rubric for your project.