

NOBEL PRIZE LESSONS

Nobel Creations

Nobel Creations is a project where students make artistic interpretations of the Nobel Prize. It is intended for all educational levels – from preschool to primary and secondary schools, as well as university level. As a teacher, you know your students, so please adapt the scale, degree of difficulty and level of ambition of Nobel Creations to your own class. *Good luck!*

Time required

At least three class hours. It is also possible to spend more time on both the practical and theoretical sections and fill 1–2 entire theme days.

Multidisciplinary

The Nobel Prize is awarded in six different categories – Physics, Chemistry, Physiology or Medicine, Literature, Peace and Economic Sciences – which means that Nobel Creations is highly suitable for a multidisciplinary theme project that can include visual arts or other aesthetic subjects.

Group project

Divide your students into groups, with about 3–4 students in each group. Each group creates an artistic interpretation of a Nobel Prize. Discussion among the students in the group is important to enable them to develop an in-depth knowledge of the subject.

Artistic interpretations and knowledge of the subject

Allowing your students to produce an artistic interpretation of a Nobel Prize enables them to build up an in-depth knowledge of a newsworthy subject area by using a practical, exploratory and creative working method.

Aesthetic expressions/materials

Here is a suggestion on how the students can create three-dimensional objects. Of course it is possible to choose other forms of expression such as paintings, collages, music or design objects. The important thing is to encourage artistic expression.

To create spatiality for three-dimensional objects, for example, use half of a cardboard box or fold a cardboard sheet as a background. The students can then attach things to the cardboard. For the exhibition, you also use the Nobel Creations templates, which are available for printing out. Suggested materials to use in creating three-dimensional objects:

Cardboard sheets

Tissue paper

Garden stakes/barbecue skewers

White and coloured paper

Cardboard

Strings/yarn

Chicken wire

Cloth

Toilet paper rolls
Steel wire
Scissors

Fishing lines
Glue gun
Wire cutter

Structure

1. Presentation of the assignment (10 min)

Tell your students that the purpose of the assignment is to enable them to learn about this year's Nobel Prize by creating an artistic interpretation and by interpreting another student group's artwork. Explain that they will have great artistic freedom and can choose how and what they want to tell. There is no right or wrong! But it is important that they can explain in what way their artwork is about the Nobel Prize. Use the Nobel Creations slideshow.

2. Knowledge of this year's Nobel Prizes (40 min)

To be able to create an artistic interpretation, the students first need to learn about what the Nobel Laureates have done. As the teacher, you choose whether to base this on all of this year's Nobel Prizes or only one of them. Use the [Nobel Prize Lessons](#), which include a slideshow with a teacher's manuscript, a short video and a student worksheet for each Nobel Prize.

3. Introduction to the assignment (10 min)

Explain to the students that they are being asked to create an artistic interpretation, not an illustration or model that provides information on what the Nobel Laureates have done. They don't need to tell everything. They can select something that attracted their attention – a detail, a pattern, a process, a feeling, a question that they want to raise or a social perspective they want to highlight.

4. Sketch work (15 min)

All groups first develop a conceptual sketch. It is important that they show and explain their sketch to a teacher before they start creating, so that the questions can be sorted out and more in-depth knowledge of the Prize can be gathered. It is also a good opportunity to encourage student's artistic expression.

5. Practical work (60 min)

During their creative work, you can ask the students to explain their choice of materials, colours and shapes. Encourage them to look for more knowledge, so they can communicate what they want to express.

6. Exhibition text that explains the artwork (15 min)

Each group writes a brief text that explains about the Nobel Prize they have worked with, and what they want to convey with their artwork. Use the student worksheet "About the artwork".

7. Interpretation of another group's object (15 min)

When all groups are finished with their objects and have written a text, they are assigned to interpret another group's artwork. Use the "Interpretation assignment" student worksheet.

8. Reporting (30 min)

When reporting, the group that has interpreted an object can begin by telling what they believe the object is intended to show. Then the group that created the object can explain how and why they chose to portray the Nobel Prize as they did.

9. Exhibition texts

Write exhibition texts based on the groups' own texts. Use the "Exhibition text" template.

10. Exhibition

Use the Nobel Creations templates. Display the exhibition somewhere in your school.