Clay Vessels
Analysis, Reflection, and Modifications:

Overall this lesson was successful. Students walked away from this project with some very interesting and unique clay vessels demonstrating representations of the elements and principles. However there were some minor complications that presented themselves throughout the lesson and if I were to teach it again, I would make a couple modifications to prevent these problems from reoccurring. First, although the intent of the project was to promote my students' creativity as they explored with clay and made different forms and vessels, many students simply made mugs. These mugs of course fulfilled the requirements of the project because they were made using one of the three hand-building pottery techniques and they had handles to show additive clay, but many of my students had made mugs like these in 6th grade and I was really hoping that they were going to create a very dynamic and diverse body of work. In the future I think I will provide more interesting and unique examples of clay vessels in order to instill that sense of inspiration to my students as well as hold my students to higher standards. Again, the mugs were fine, but I would have loved to see *all* of my students stretch and explore beyond their comfort zone.

In addition, when it came to creating representations of the elements and principles, it seemed that although my students had had many lessons regarding this content area in 7th grade, they had forgotten most of what they had learned since then and had some difficulties when it came time to decorate their vessels. In the future, I will be sure to provide a much more thorough presentation of the elements and principles make sure that all my students feel confident about the content area that they will be required to demonstrate their knowledge of. All in all, the project went really well, in the future I believe I would simply hold my students to higher standards and make sure that they all completely understand every element of the lesson.