Lesson Plan: Design and Empathy in the Constitution

Assessment: Students will write a summary of the democratic principles, their importance, and their location in the Constitution in a model museum exhibition. Students will design an exhibit that thoroughly explains one of the principles of the Constitution to the general public through pictures, captions, and quotes.

Museum Project Rubric:

Meaning, Synthesis and Storytelling
Provides an information summary of the topic. (45%)
- Synthesizes all information about the topic and tells a story.
- Explains the meaning and significance of the topic.

Provides 3 images with captions. (25%)
- Images are relevant and captions are informative
- Captions and images are related to the overall meaning of the principle.

Provides a quote or slogan that encapsulates the topic. (5%)

Design, Empathy, and Play
Design of the project helps teach about the topic. (15%)
- Is aesthetically pleasing and visitor-friendly
- Contains no or minor errors that do not distract from Meaning

High quality elements are added into project. (10%)
- Interactive station allows for play and further learning.
- Element of quality added (mural, advertising, Brochure, etc)
Quality Criteria:
Within the curriculum, there is also an emphasis on what I have identified as “21st Century Skills.” Amongst these are design, empathy, storytelling, meaning, play, and synthesis. The project students complete at the end of this lesson project will include a rubric that assesses students based upon these skills. Also, we will draw connections between the creation of the Constitution and the use of these skills to emphasize the fact that they are timeless, though of crucial importance today.