UNIT: Design and Function of Interior Space LESSON: Drawing Floor Plans

COMPETENCIES:

1. Identify and draw symbols commonly used on floor plans.

2. Identify types of drawings included in a set of house plans and explain their purposes.

OVERVIEW/SUMMARY:

Designers use plans to present ideas to clients and organize the interior space. A designer must be able to produce a floor plan that is neat, accurate, and easy to understand. This is what is presented to the client.

MOTIVATOR:

Give each student a copy of a floor plan. Have them identify the symbols and quickly evaluate the floor plan, using the criteria previously established.

OPTIONS/SUPPLIES:

OPTION 1

PROJECT: Have the students create a presentation floor plan using the "FLOOR PLAN AND ELEVATION ASSIGNMENT" and "WALL ELEVATION" transparency. The following suggestions may be useful:

- 1. Decide if your students will use existing plans or create original plans. (The plans are usually more successful if they adapt them rather than create them.)
- 2. Determine the budget for this activity. Research local costs (per square-foot) for building.
- 3. Decide on the maximum size (small is easier).
- 4. Use the methods that work best for you. Graph paper is easy and inexpensive, but really is not the best for presentation. Plans drawn on graph paper may be traced onto tracing paper or vellum. Plans can be drawn right onto vellum. (Tissue paper is hard to mount neatly.) Computer programs may also be used, if available. If time permits, do both hand and computer drawings
- 5. Furniture arrangements should be included.
- 6. Black ink may be used for the final plan. Be sure to label rooms after all furniture has been placed.
- 7. Presentation is crucial. Plans should be mounted and labeled neatly.
- Grading criteria can be established by the teacher or by the class. Function should account for 50-67% of the grade. Neatness should be 33-50% of the grade. It might be good to have your students grade or evaluate each others' floor plans.
- 9. Check the competency testing material. A floor plan is part of this test and can be dovetailed into this project.

OPTION 2

PROJECT: Have students select a room in a house and build a small model to scale, using the directions found on the guidesheet "THREE DIMENSIONAL ROOM".