

## Faith, SD Fair and Rodeo

Teaching Tip

Rodeo: An Abstract Look

### Rodeo: An Abstract Look

The small town of Faith, South Dakota has been home to a rodeo and stock show since 1910. Six minutes of film shot in 1927 captured a day at the event.

The 6 minute film is divided into three parts. Part one shows a carnival taking place on the main street running through town.



The camera is taken aloft on a Ferris wheel and seen from above, the town looks almost like a western movie set.

Part two of the film shows rodeo cowboys riding or trying to ride saddle-broncos. Most of those competing in the 1927 rodeo lived in South Dakota.



Cowgirl and trick-rider Mattie Goff was a featured attraction at the rodeo. Goff performed in rodeos throughout South Dakota and the West until she married and settled down to ranch life in Meade County. She was inducted into the National Cowboy Hall of Fame, the South Dakota Hall of Fame, and the National Cowgirl Hall of Fame.



During this activity your students will create an abstract painting or drawing using lines, forms, textures, shapes, color, etc. Your students will select an event in the video and recreate the mood/feeling by creating the abstract piece.

#### Process:

- Introduce the activity by showing the videos below.
  - Faith, SD Fair and Rodeo - 1927, Part One ([Watch PBS](#))
  - Faith, SD Fair and Rodeo - 1927, Part Two ([Watch PBS](#))
  - Trick Rider Mattie Goff at the 1927 Faith, SD Rodeo ([Watch PBS](#))
- The first video is divided into 7 parts, including topics like the fair, the crowd at the rodeo, a buffalo dance, a roman race and more. The second video is a collection of approximately 13 bronco riders (this collection should be considered as one theme). The third video is a clip taken from the first video which is a clip of Mattie Goff.
- Each student should select a section (like the roman race) from one of the videos above as a theme for their abstract drawing/painting. The students should then use lines, shapes, color, etc. to create their piece. The students should recreate the mood/feeling of the event.
- Once completed, all of the abstract art work should be displayed. Then, each student in the class should see if they can identify the section of video represented by each piece.

#### Additional Resources:

- PBS LearningMedia - [Art Basics with Dick Termes: Drawing](#)
- PBS LearningMedia - [Abstraction: Nancy Cassell](#)