IN THE CLASSROOM

Challenge:
How can small art inspire big wonder and excitement? By creating a tiny door for others to enjoy we are using our own imagination to encourage others to be curious and explore. Tiny Doors ATL was inspired by the unique neighborhoods around Atlanta. Each door is a reflection of the people and culture near by. We do not decide who lives behind the doors, we simply create space for the people of Atlanta to imagine for themselves. How can you use the unique environment around you to create a tiny door that interacts with and inspires the people who pass by?

Objectives:
• Develop an understanding of how art impacts its environment
• Exercise skills in creating site-specific 3 dimensional sculpture
• Critical thinking around the purpose and expression of public art

Essential Questions:
• How can a tiny door in a classroom make people feel connected to the outside world, and to one another?
• What makes your classroom, school, and neighborhood unique, and how can a tiny door reflect these qualities?
• Does your tiny door need to open in order to encourage imagination?
• What makes a great location for a tiny door in your environment?

Goal:
In groups or individually, students will plan and then create a new door from materials provided. The goal of this project is to encourage and develop critical thinking skills surrounding small, accessible art, and the power of imagination.
**Process:**

**Plan**
- Choose a location, think about foot traffic and significance of location
- Ask important questions about who the door is for and why
- Decide whether door will open
- Sketch door in color

**Create**
- Use paper, cardboard, wood and other age appropriate materials to assemble doors.
- Adhere doors to location with double-sided tape or other removable materials.

**Observe**
- Watch tiny door over a period of a few days to a month, see how people interact, and how those interactions change.
- Repair door as necessary until it is removed.
  
  Note: Tiny Doors ATL’s policy is to remove a door if it is damaged and we cannot repair it. As a new door can be exciting, a broken and discarded door can be discouraging – even disturbing to visitors. We encourage all other tiny door makers to consider the impact of their doors on the community.

**Discuss**
- What challenges did you face while creating a tiny door?
- What information was acquired by observing the doors?
- Assessment of how door is interacting with public/classroom environment- has it needed repair? Why?
- Do you believe that tiny doors are an important tool for connecting people? What might work better than a tiny door?