

- Establish an “artwork on loan” program where parents “loan” the classroom their artwork for a period of time.
- Use colors or artistic styles representing students’ culture as a visual backdrop on bulletin boards year round. Incorporate them into art activities.
- Bring in photographs of murals and other community art into the classroom. Partner with local art organizations to get access to interesting photos.
- Decorate with authentic textiles and handcrafts as accents not “artifacts.”
- Include naturalistic elements signifying nature (air, earth, water, and fire).
- Post diagrams of patents from engineers and inventors of color.

Remember that the signs and symbols around us communicate with our collective unconscious mind. Think about the cultural values of your students and translate those values into concrete objects and symbols that you can display or integrate into the classroom. Use the worksheet below to brainstorm how you might select meaningful artifacts and cultural symbols for display in the classroom.

Figure 9.1 Classroom Design

Cultural Value	Possible Symbols and Artifacts
Example: <i>Collective work and responsibility</i>	<i>Posters of social movements, especially with youth—Freedom Riders, community gardens in urban areas</i>