

# Social Commentary in Literature

7th Grade

The Bronxville School

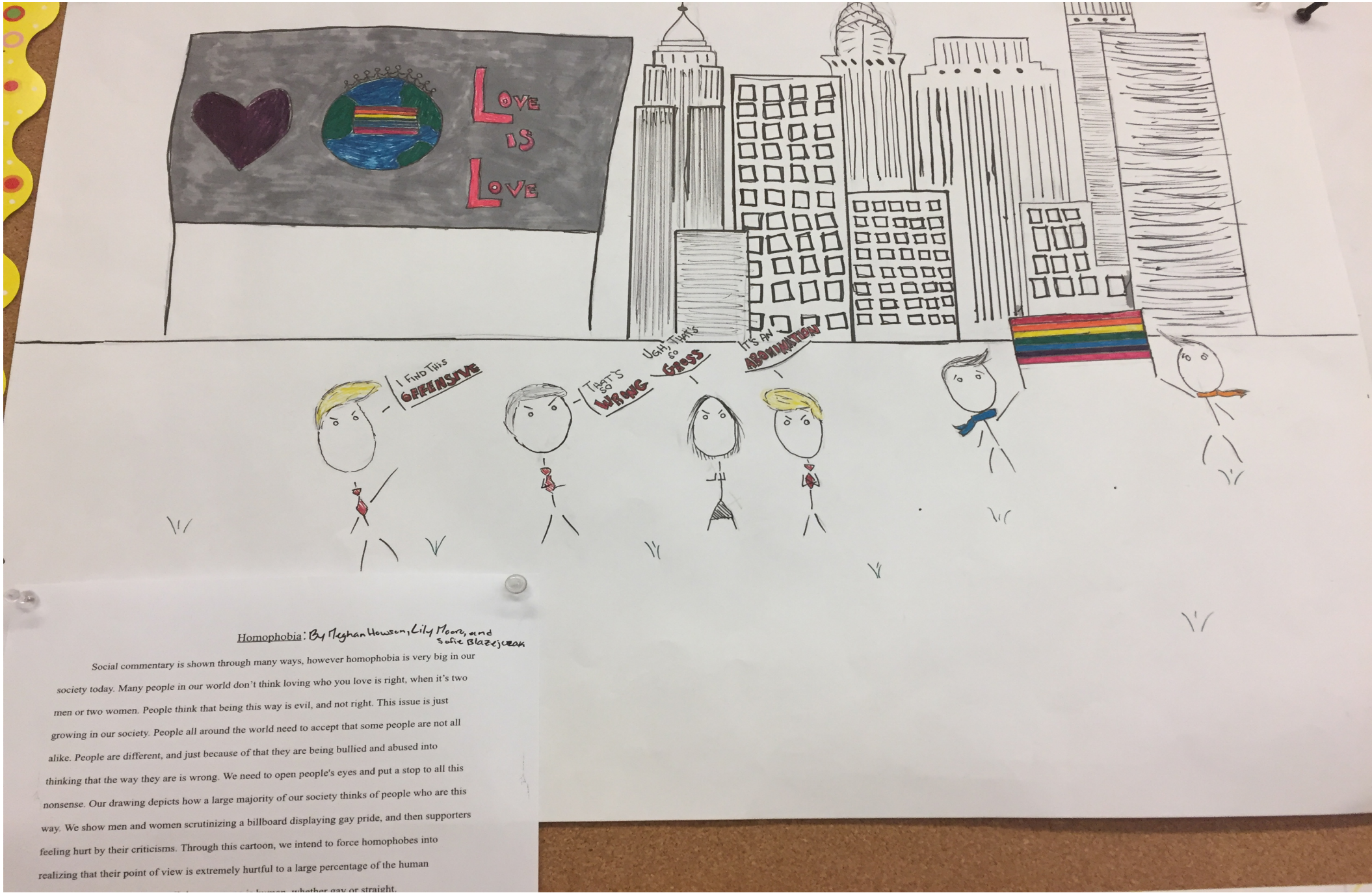
Winter

Students are studying examples of social commentary in literature (short stories, a novel, comics), and will create their own work which comments on a social injustice they see in their world.

## Driving Question

How can we create projects that comment on and ignite change in society?

## Dispositions



## Resources

Student interviewed “experts”, Observed students from Cottle School, Interviewed other Students in other Countries

## Products & Formative Assessments

Students used their knowledge of social commentary to create their own short, creative piece of social commentary. They chose a social injustice that they see in their world and created a project with the goal of opening people's eyes to the issue.

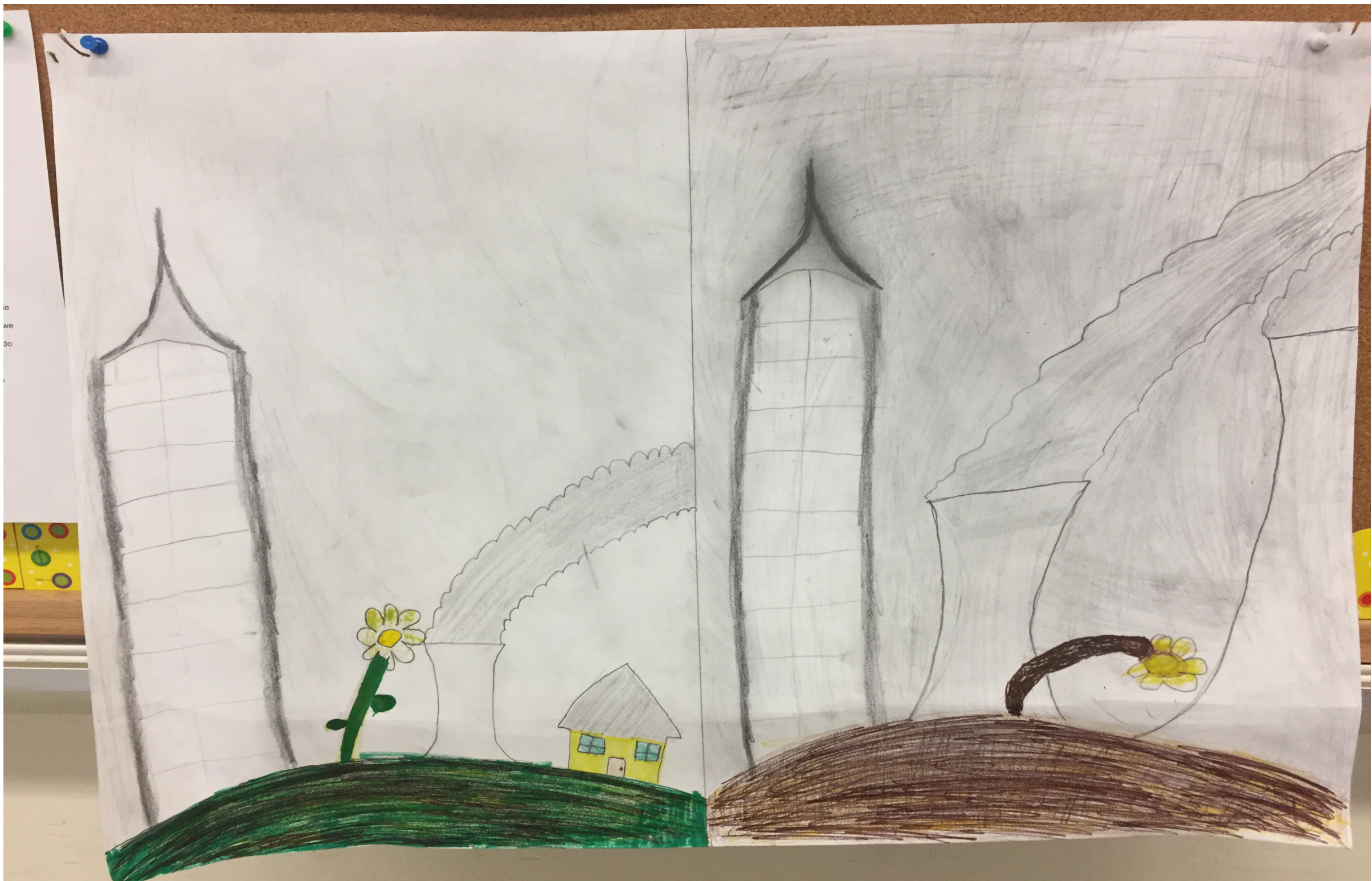
## Success Skills

Creativity  
Critical Thinking

## Assessment of Success Skill

Self reflection answering the questions:  
What did I learn? How have I changed?  
Large group discussion based on self reflections.

Students will read various works which are examples of social commentary. We will read a novel together (Dickens' A Christmas Carol) and explore what was happening in Victorian England during Dickens' time that made him so angry and how did he use his book to try to bring about change. We will also briefly talk about literature that we read previously in English and question whether they are examples of social commentary (Wrinkle in Time, 12 Angry Men, The Outsiders). Students will then read/view a variety of social commentary (short stories, comics, excerpts from graphic novels, artwork, music, etc.) and look at how these works may be examples of social commentary. Students will eventually create their own project which comments on something happening in society.



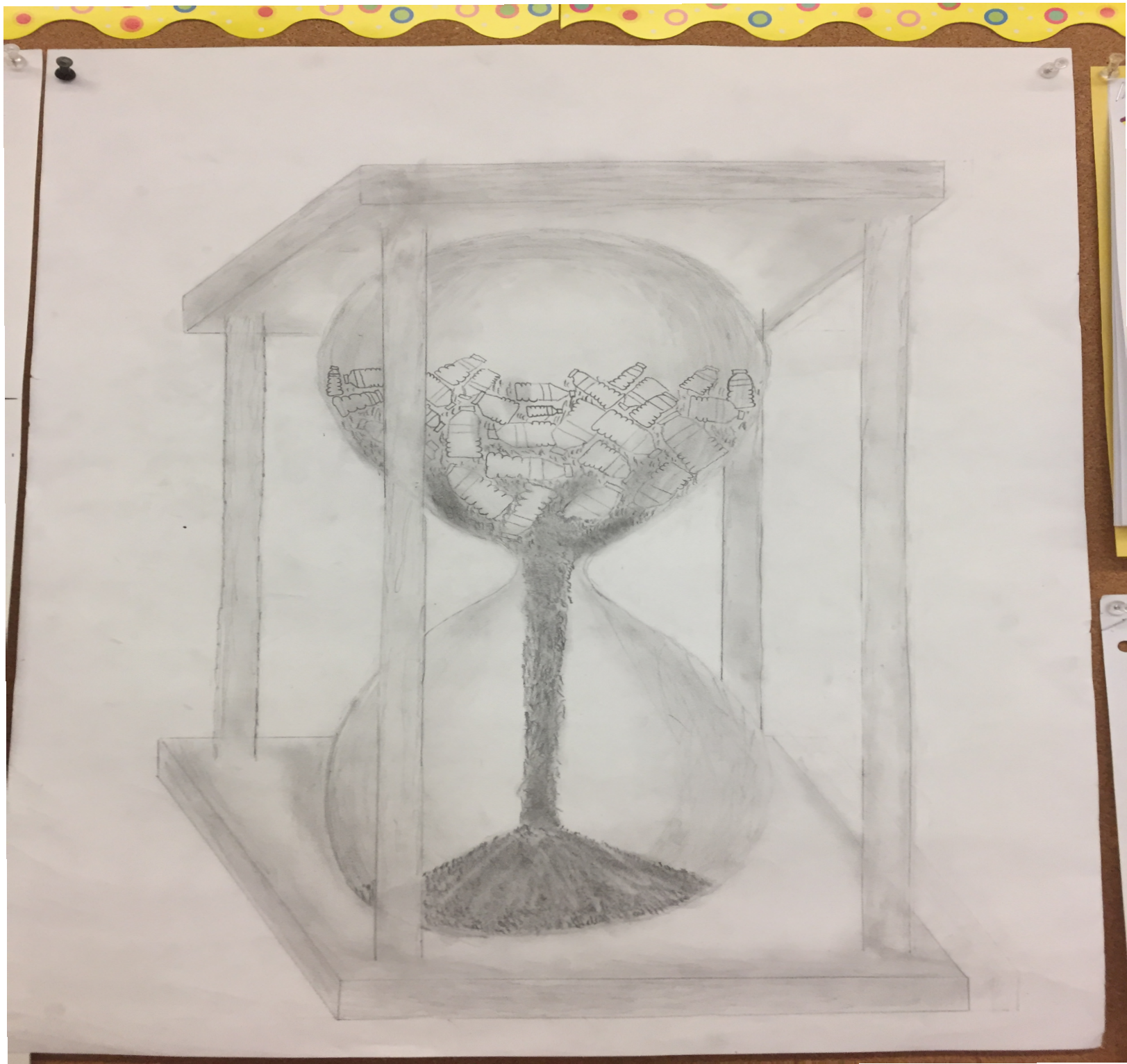


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## Week 1

What is Social Commentary?  
Discussion of definition of Social Commentary.  
Examples of Social Commentary in Music  
Examples of Social Commentary Across Media

## Week 2

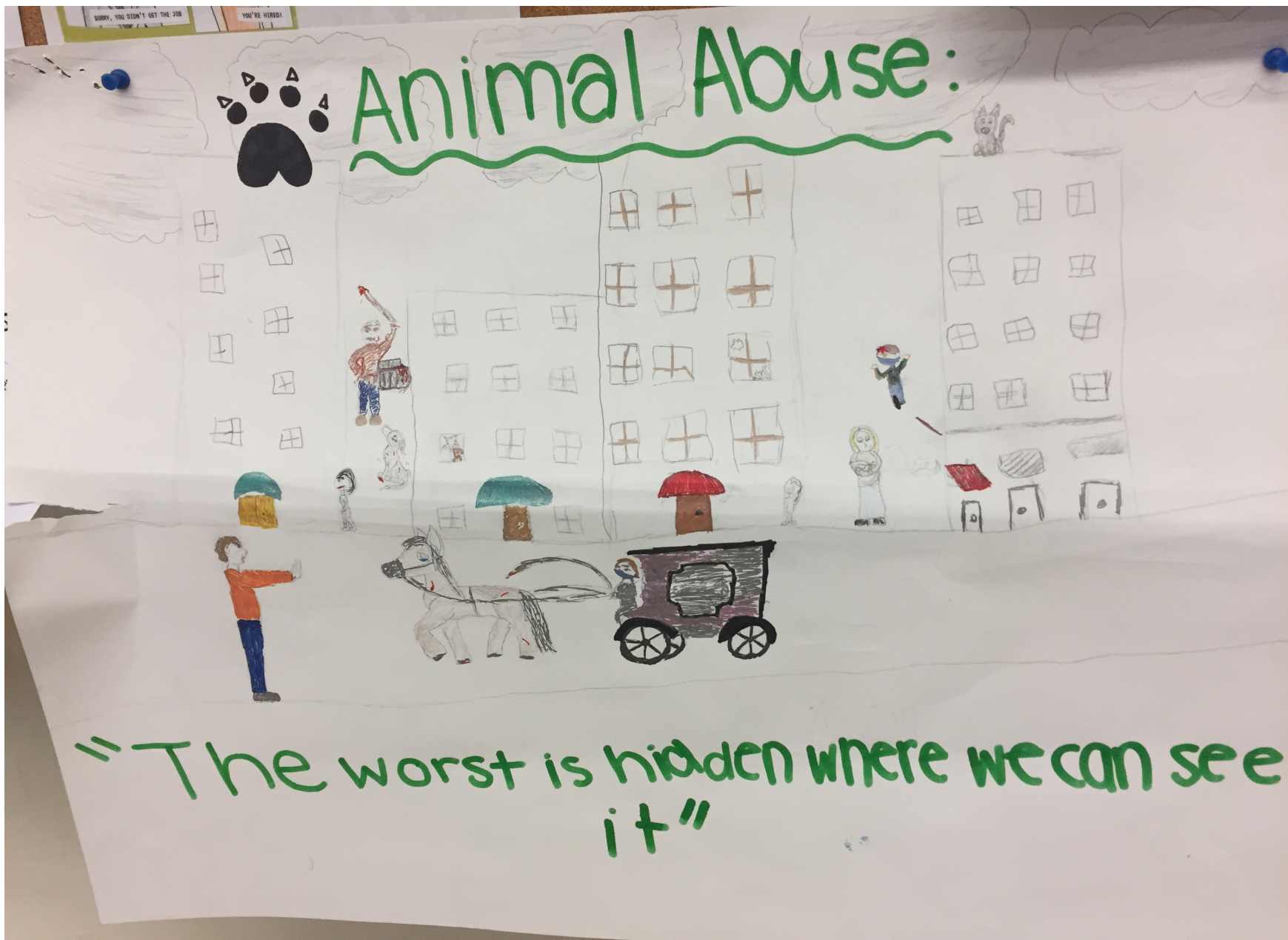
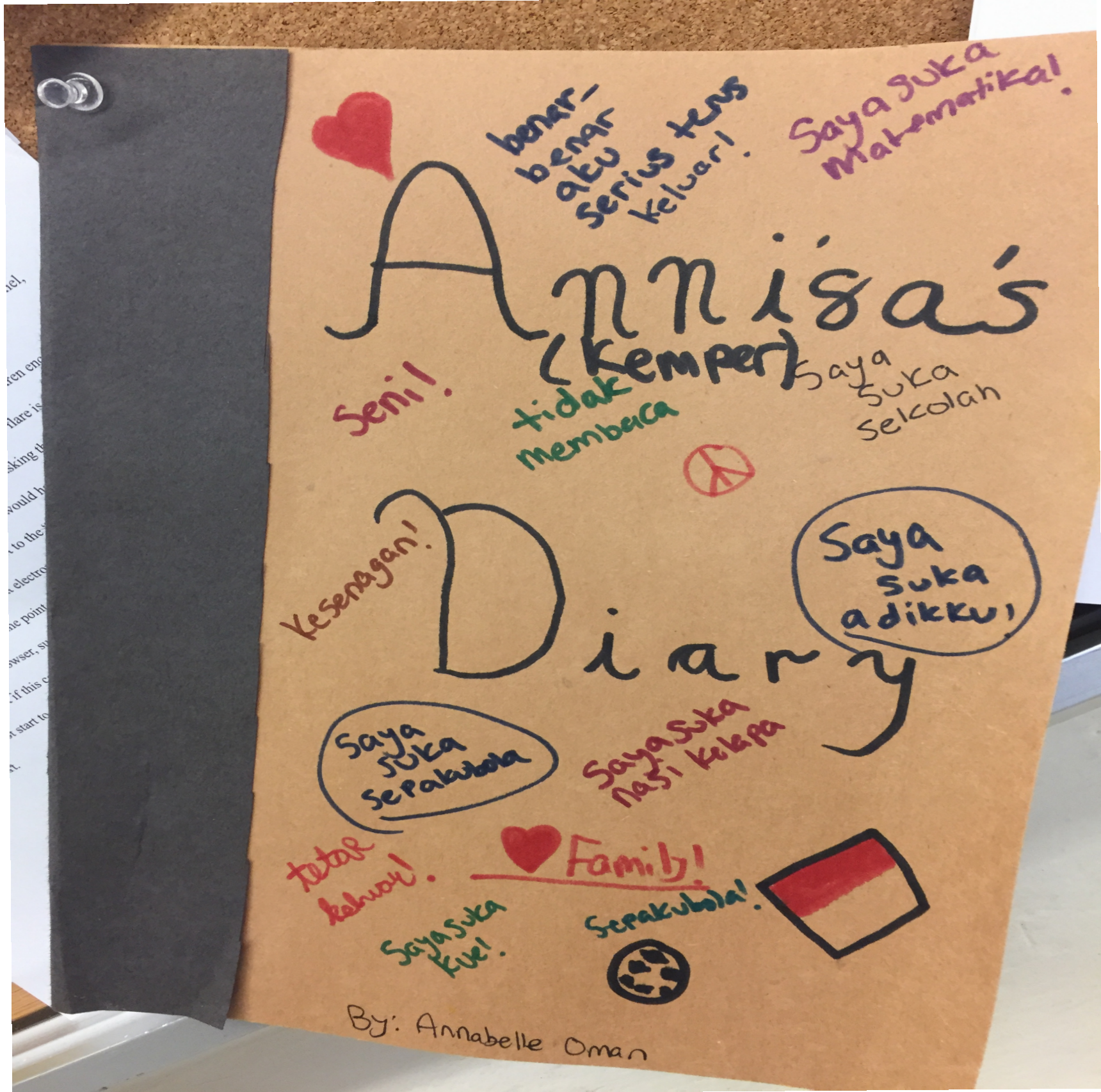
Introduction to A Christmas Carol  
What was happening in Victorian England that had Charles Dickens  
so angry?  
Group research projects about the Victorian Era

## Week 3

Research Project Presentations  
Let's tie this all together! How is A Christmas Carol an example of  
Social Commentary?

## Week 4

How can WE create projects that comment on an issue we see in  
society?  
Work on individual/group Social Commentary projects  
Presentation of projects  
Reflection: What have we learned? How have we changed?



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