

How Artists Create

Elementary (PreK-5th Grade)

“How Artists Create” helps students dive deeper into artists’ choices and techniques. The gallery portion of the program focuses on the elements of art: line, color, shape, texture, form, space, and value. Gallery educators guide students through Artful Thinking Routines and activities from Harvard’s Project Zero. Activities include “line yoga,” investigating the emotions evoked by different colors, and more! Discussions center on the artists’ choices and how those choices create meaning. In the art studio, students choose from a variety of art materials to create their own work using the elements of art.

Essential Question:

How do artists use the elements of art to create meaning?

Learning Targets:

1. Students identify at least three elements of art in a work of art in the galleries and in a self-created work of art.
2. Students consider why an artist made choices related to the elements of art.

Success Criteria:

- Students can name at least three elements of art.
 - Students can point to and name three elements of art in works of art in the galleries and in their own work of art.
 - Students can explain why an artist may have made a certain choice about an element of art (e.g. why the artist chose a certain color, why the artist chose to use a certain type of line, etc.).
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Standards Alignment

Washington State Visual Arts

Kindergarten

- Cr1.1.K(a) Engage in exploration and imaginative play with materials
- Cr2.1.K(a) Through experimentation, build skills in various media and approaches to art-making
- Re8.1.K(a) Interpret art by identifying subject matter and describing relevant details
- Cn11.1.K(a) Identify a purpose of an artwork

1st Grade

- Cr1.2.1(a) Use observation and investigation in preparation for making a work of art
- Cr2.1.1(a) Explore uses of materials and tools to create works of art or design
- Cr3.1.1(a) Use art vocabulary to describe choices while creating art
- Re8.1.1(a) Interpret art by . . . identifying the characteristics of form.

2nd Grade

- Cr1.2.2(a) Make art or design with various materials and tools to explore personal interests, questions, and curiosity
- Cr2.1.2(a) Experiment with various materials and tools to explore personal interests in a work of art or design
- Cr3.1.2(a) Discuss and reflect with peers about choices made in creating artwork
- Re8.1.2(a) Interpret art by . . . describing relevant subject matter and characteristics of form

3rd Grade

- Cr1.1.3(a) Elaborate on an imaginative idea
- Cr1.2.3(a) Apply knowledge of available resources, tools, and technologies to investigate personal ideas through the art-making process
- Cr2.1.3(a) Create personally satisfying artwork, using a variety of artistic processes and materials
- Cr3.1.3(a) Elaborate visual information by adding details in an artwork to enhance emerging meaning
- Re8.1.3(a) Interpret art by analyzing use of media to create subject matter, characteristics of form, and mood

4th Grade

- Cr2.1.4(a) Explore and invent art-making techniques and approaches
- Re7.2.4(a) Analyze components in visual imagery that convey messages
- Re8.1.4(a) Interpret art by . . . analyzing relevant subject matter, characteristics of form, and use of media

5th Grade

- Cr2.1.5(a) Experiment and develop skills in multiple art-making techniques and approaches through practice
- Re7.1.5(a) Compare one's own interpretation of a work of art with the interpretation of others
- Re8.1.5(a) Interpret art by analyzing characteristics of form and structure, contextual information, subject matter, visual elements, and use of media to identify ideas and mood conveyed