



LOWER SCHOOL CURRICULUM SUMMARIES

ART

The art curriculum adheres to the tenets of Discipline Based Art Education, which has four components: Art History, Art Criticism, Aesthetics and Practice. Students learn about each of these components as they produce their own art using various media and techniques. These include drawing, painting, ceramics, printmaking, assemblage, collage, sculpture, photography in grade 4, architecture, weaving, sewing, and puppetry. Sketchbooks are created annually and kept in the art room for the duration of the year as a tool for planning larger artworks and recording visual data. Field trips and computer technology often enhance the curriculum. As famous artists and their works are studied, students have the opportunity to create art in the styles of these artists and reflect upon these styles and media. Art projects are often connected with the topics the students study in their other courses, and the art projects enrich those experiences. Each student's creativity reveals itself in the production of original artworks. We strive to reserve time and energy for assessment and reflection. Every student is an innovator and creative artist as well as a student of art history.

Kindergarten

Elements of art are introduced in Kindergarten with a focus on line, color, and texture in both two dimensional and three-dimensional projects. The Art History timeline begins with cave paintings with stops in ancient Mexico for ceramics, the Middle Ages for mosaics, the Renaissance for stained glass, and painting and drawing in the Modern Era.

Units of Study Include:

*Creation/Drawing/Primitive Art

-Lascaux cave dwellers, cave drawings, dinosaur fossils, self-portraits, family portraits, sketching

*Multicultural Art/Painting

-color mixing; Van Gogh sky paintings, ceramic pinch pots, autumn trees, still lifes

*Collage/Matisse

-cutting, gluing, assemblage, underwater scenes

*Architecture/Stained Glass

-La Farge inspired windows, medieval castles

*Abstraction/Pollock/Klee

-line and shape paintings, mixed media wood sculptures, crazy hats

*Portraits/Cassatt/Black History/Pippin/Bearden

-warm and cool paintings, brushstrokes, interior designs

*Sculpture/Calder/Degas

-tree sculptures, Frank Stella reliefs, hand puppets

*Landscape/Pissarro/Monet

-pointillist landscapes, drawing to music murals, emotional qualities of color

*Printmaking/Jim Dine/Warhol Multiples

-leaf printing, nature rubbings, collections

First Grade

Color relationships are formalized with the color wheel; primary and secondary colors as well as warm and cool colors are discovered. Line, value, shape, and pattern are identified and integrated into projects. The Art History timeline includes nature paintings inspired by Henri Rousseau, assemblage sculpture, and coiled pottery.

Units of Study Include:

*Creation/Drawing/Primitive Art

-Lascaux cave dwellers, contemporary cave murals, shell fossils, self-portraits, family portraits, tree sketching outdoors

*Multicultural Art/Painting

-color mixing; ceramic coil pots with pre-Columbian designs, autumn watercolors, still lifes, figure drawing

*Collage/Matisse

-organizing, cutting, gluing, assemblage, underwater scenes, paper weavings

*Architecture/Stained Glass

-Gothic windows, neighborhood paper constructions, seasonal activities

*Abstraction/Pollock/Klee

-line and shape paintings, mixed media wood sculptures

*Portraits/Cassatt/Black History/Pippin/Bearden

-warm and cool paintings, brushstrokes, figure drawing, Magazine collage

*Sculpture/Calder/Degas

-abstract sculptures, clay figure sculptures, metal reliefs

*Landscape/Sisley/Monet/Pisarro

-pointillist landscapes, warm and cool paintings, emotional qualities of color

*Printmaking/Jim Dine/Warhol

-object printing; industrial rubbings, multiples

Second Grade

Shape and form are added to line, color, value and texture in the identification of the elements of art; observations of nature and the environment include still life drawing and weather painting. The Art History timeline stops in a primal rainforest where birds and animals inhabit original landscapes. Impressionism, Cubism, and Realism are identified as modern art styles through the study of Monet, Picasso, and Homer.

Units of Study Include:

*Creation/Drawing/Primitive Art

-sketches of Lascaux cave dwellers, bird paintings, Creation, Day 3 murals, self-portraits, volume sketching outdoors on campus

*Multicultural Art/Mexican Painting

-color mixing with tints and shades; ceramic bird sculptures, watercolors, Frida Kahlo faces, and Mexican tinware

*Collage/Matisse/Bearden

-organizing, cutting, gluing, assemblage, underwater scenes, paper weavings

*Architecture/Stained Glass

-Medieval mosaics, neighborhood paper constructions, seasonal activities

*Abstraction/Pollock/Klee

- Overlap, line and shade paintings, mixed media relief sculptures
- *Portraits/Picasso, Black History/Pippin
 - warm and cool paintings, brushstrokes, figure drawing, magazine collage
- *Sculpture/Calder/Moore
 - abstract clay sculptures, wire figure sculptures, metal reliefs
- *Landscape/Monet/Sisley
 - pointillist landscapes, warm and cool paintings, emotional qualities of color
- *Printmaking/Jim Dine/Warhol
 - object printing; industrial rubbings, multiples, foam plate printing

Third Grade

Line, color, value, texture, shape, and form are explored more deeply. The concept and practice of space in two-dimensional and three-dimensional projects is introduced along with the principles of design of balance and emphasis. Projects include the building of medieval castles, African textile weavings, and self-portraits.

Units of Study Include:

- *Creation/Drawing/Primitive Art
 - bird paintings, Creation, Day 3, murals, self-portraits, family portraits, tree sketching outdoors
- *Multicultural Art/Mexican Painting/Incan/Mayan designs
 - weaving, color mixing, watercolors, Orozco murals, Mexican tinware, Day of the Dead projects
- *Collage/Matisse/Rauschenberg
 - organizing, cutting, gluing, assemblage, urban scenes, autumn clay projects
- *Architecture/Stained Glass
 - Gothic windows, neighborhood paper constructions, seasonal activities
- *Abstraction/Pollack/Klee
 - line and shape paintings, mixed media wood sculptures, clay tiles
- *Portraits/Braque/Black History/Pippin/Bearden
 - African textile designs, warm and cool paintings, brushstrokes, cubist portraits, and magazine collage
- *Sculpture/Calder
 - Watts Tower sculptures, clay figure sculptures, metal reliefs
- *Landscape/Cezanne/Monet
 - impressionist landscapes, warm and cool paintings, emotional qualities of color
- *Printmaking/Jim Dine/Warhol
 - object printing; foam plate multiples, negative/positive space projects

Fourth Grade

Asymmetrical and radial balance, complex patterns, proportion and movement are implemented as principles of design in two and three-dimensional projects. One-point perspective is introduced as well as digital photography. Some project themes covered are visual symbols and contour drawing. The Art History timeline sweeps through ancient Mayan and Incan culture with a special mask-making project, and into the twentieth century with wire mobiles inspired by Alexander Calder.

Units of Study Include:

- *Creation/Drawing/Primitive Art
 - Greek clay pottery, Egyptian paintings, model sketching, sketching outdoors, sea shell contour/volume

sketches

*Multicultural Art/Mexican Painting/Muralists/Chinese Horoscopes

-Clay/fabric puppets, color mixing with animals, Orozco murals, African textile design

*Collage/Matisse

-organizing, cutting, gluing, assemblage, interiors with perspective

*Architecture/Stained Glass

-Medieval castle designs, building plans with models

*Abstraction/Pollack/Klee

-line and shape paintings, mixed media wood sculptures, abstract acrylic painting

*Portraits/DaVinci/Black History/Pippin/Bearden

-Mona Lisa paintings, brushstrokes, figure drawing

*Sculpture/Calder/Butterfields

-wire mobiles, clay horse sculptures, metal reliefs

*Landscape/Still Life/Rousseau/Monet/Leger

-primitive paintings, acrylic landscapes, emotional qualities of color, fauvism, Cubist portraits

*Printmaking/Photography/Warhol

-foam template printing, portrait photo multiples