



## Visual Arts

The visual arts standards in the middle school years build on the general art knowledge and skills developed at the elementary level. In addition, students explore and examine the role of design and technology in making, documenting, and presenting works of art. Students create, discuss, reflect on, and compare works of art—across historical periods and cultures—using materials, processes, tools, and vocabulary in more complex ways. Art careers and art-depicting issues that are important to communities are also examined. At this level, middle school art students extend their artistic vision beyond self and look at their artistic practice as part of a much larger community.

### Expectations for 6th Grade Students:

- **Observe and Learn to Comprehend (Know/Comprehend):** Use art-specific vocabulary to talk about how art is created by artists across cultures and time periods (media, process, tools and technology).
- **Envision and Critique to Reflect (Critique/Evaluate/Refine):** Practice critiquing works of art using art vocabulary and multiple points of view.
- **Invent and Discover to Create (Create/Present):** Make multiple plans and experiment with using art materials in new and unusual ways; use technology to document and talk about artwork and the art-making process.
- **Relate and Connect to Transfer (Connect/Apply/Transfer):** Explain the importance of art in everyday life for people from various communities or cultures; describe how art can make a statement about an important issue.

### Expectations for 7th Grade Students:

### Throughout 6th Grade You May Find Students:

- Analyzing and interpreting works of art and art concepts using specific technical vocabulary (symbolism, two dimensional, three dimensional, texture, hues).
- Using and connecting ideas, themes, and issues in art to other subjects such as literature, history, science, mathematics, and social studies.
- Using various approaches for planning, including technology, to make art.
- Experimenting to use materials in new and unusual ways; considering new and multiple approaches to planning.
- Examining and explaining the importance and purposes of art across time and culture and using this knowledge to inform art making.

### Throughout 7th Grade You May Find Students:

- **Observe and Learn to Comprehend (Know/Comprehend):** Think, respond, and write critically about the meaning of art; describe artistic creation in relationship to culture, purpose, and style.
- **Envision and Critique to Reflect (Critique/Evaluate/Refine):** Use visual evidence and art vocabulary to interpret and explain meaning.
- **Invent and Discover to Create (Create/Present):** Create multiple plans and approaches to develop and create a work of art from a single artistic idea; show evidence of previously learned skills in new artwork.
- **Relate and Connect to Transfer (Connect/Apply/Transfer):** Apply critical thinking skills used in art (interpret, compare and contrast, analyze, generate ideas) to other aspects of life; use art to bring awareness of important issues identified by a community.

- Planning, and then analyzing, their ideas in multiple ways to create works of art and solve design problems.
- Referencing art from many cultures, both historical and contemporary, to inform art making.
- Employing a range of technology to plan and create works of art.
- Documenting the art-making process.
- "Reading" images from multiple sources to determine intent and purpose.
- Creating and interpreting art to explore ideas and issues grounded in other disciplines.
- Identifying how graphic images/works of art can be used as documents to inform viewers about a particular time and culture.
- Using critical thinking skills to study personal works of art, as well as the artwork of others.

### Expectations for 8th Grade Students:

- **Observe and Learn to Comprehend (Know/Comprehend):** Consider sources for and of inspiration; use historical and contemporary art to inform and support ideas and plans to create art.
- **Envision and Critique to Reflect (Critique/Evaluate/Refine):** Investigate and talk about the meaning of works of art considering multiple points of view; explain how art is personally relevant and of significance to the artist.
- **Invent and Discover to Create (Create/Present):** Develop proficiency in handling art materials, tools, processes, and technologies when planning and creating art.
- **Relate and Connect to Transfer (Connect/Apply/Transfer):** Explain the relationship between art and design in everyday life; discuss the impact art can have on the way we understand and function in the

### Throughout 8th Grade You May Find Students:

- Describing and defending the intent and purpose of art using appropriate art vocabulary (the composition of stark contrasting colors represents the artist's intent to share a strong emotion).
- Investigating and debating quality in art and design.
- Explaining the reasons for creating a work of art; recognizing the influence of culture on artistic decisions.
- Describing and debating persuasive techniques used in print and electronic media to influence an audience.
- Creating innovative works of art that depict personal, social, cultural, and/or political viewpoints as well as other interests.
- Researching and describing real-world applications of art.

world.