

Art Lab!

Grades 3-6 (6 book set)

How can art and design make people's lives better? Go to art school and learn about shapes, patterns, colors, and the basic elements needed to make art. Get inspired by artists from history and modern times and their unique styles and tools. Paint like Pollack, sculpt like Giacometti, make paper cut outs like Matisse and create animation without a Hollywood budget. Even discover art history with a prehistoric twist!

Books in this set: How to Create Animation, The Prehistoric Masters of Art, 23 Ways to be a Great Artist, Art Lab for Kids, 3,2,1, Draw, The School of Art

Learning Objectives: Students will be able to identify famous artists and their masterpieces, and create art using different mediums, materials and techniques as they make connections between art, math, science, engineering and technology.

Essential Questions in this unit:

- What is art?
- How is art personal?
- Who is an artist?
- Why is art created? What does it communicate?
- Why do artists do what they do?
- Where do artists get their ideas?
- Should art tell a story?
- What inspires you?
- What can artwork tell us about a culture or society?
- How do artists choose tools, techniques, and material to express their ideas?
- What can we learn from studying a work of art?
- How are art, technology, engineering, math and science connected?

Use the books in the **Art Lab** set to learn about art as a form of communication, the history of famous artists, and their works, different art mediums, materials and techniques. Design and create original pieces of art and find out what inspires you! Think about how art, science, technology, engineering and math are connected as you read.

Keep an art journal and answer the following questions throughout your unit of study: Use specific examples from the books in the set or online resources.

1. What is an artist?
2. How do artists get ideas?
3. How does art record and communicate the human experience?

4. How does art help us learn about other people?
5. What can we learn about a culture through its art forms?
6. How is art used in everyday life?
7. What are some different types of art?
8. Describe how people express themselves through art today. How does technology change the way images are constructed and interpreted?
9. How do artists choose and use tools, techniques, and material to express their ideas?
10. Are some forms of media better than others for communicating particular ideas or emotions?
11. List new art vocabulary as you come to words that you don't know.
12. Can art be ugly? Why an artist would make an ugly work of art? Give examples.
13. Explain a piece of art that made you feel happy, sad, scared.
14. Does something have to be original to be art?
15. What can we learn from studying a work of art?
16. How has technology changed the way art is constructed? Find examples from the books.
17. Does a color always look the same? Explain.
18. How can you recycle things to make art?
19. What different kinds of materials do artists use?
20. How do they use different tools, techniques and materials to express their ideas?
21. What artist inspires you and why?
22. Compare and contrast two different types of art.
23. Compare and contrast two artists from different time periods.
24. How have artists used their creativity to make political and social statements?
25. How does a piece of art show emotion? How does it bring out emotion?
26. Read *The Prehistoric Masters Art*. How does the author create humor and tone in the book?
27. How does the author use authentic information?

28. How does art relate to science?

29. Find a famous work of art and explain the “story” from your point of view. Research the work of art to find out what the artist intended to express.

30. What is symmetry? What role does symmetry play in art forms?

31. Research human proportion. Explain the math.

Activities

Think about how animals can be used to make art. Create a class “how-to” book on animal art.

Create a piece of artwork inspired by a famous masterpiece. Have an art show. See if the members of the class can figure out who inspired each work of art.

Work with a partner to create a piece of art that is symmetrical and one that is asymmetrical.

Draw a realistic human with the correct proportions.

Choose a lesson from How to Create Animation and try it out with a partner. Share your project with the class.

Collect items from home or school that you would throw away or consider trash. Create a work of art using these recycled items. Write an essay explaining the art form and materials used.

Create a piece of “ugly art”.

Design your own “prehistoric master of art” choosing from an artist not mentioned in the book. Write a chapter for **Jurassic Classics** mimicking the craft and structure of author, Elise Wallace.

Write an advertisement for a new technological advance that will be used by artists in the future.

For more information on this topic, please refer to the books below:

9781609928339 23 Ways to be a Great Artist

9781847807748 3, 2, 1, Draw!

9781592537655 Art Lab For kids

9781633221826 How To Create Animation

9781633221802 Jurassic Classics: Prehistoric
Masters of Art

9781847807007 School of Art, The

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