

Early and Lower School Visual Arts

The Visual Arts courses for kindergarten through third grade are designed to reinforce art skills learned in art in previous grades. Expanding each student's creativity and confidence in their skills are also goals. Allowing children to express their ideas in various media is considered very important. Art projects include creative solving problem.

Art activities will build on what students have learned in the following strands:

Drawing:

The children will begin with line exploration and proceed to draw from still-life displays, objects and their own reflection.

They will draw portraits of themselves and of their family and friends formally and informally.

The students will learn that things in the distance appear smaller.

A variety of media will be used including pencils, markers, and oil pastels.

Students will do preliminary sketches in their sketchbooks for all major art projects.

Painting:

Students will study color and review the primary and secondary colors.

The students will create their own color wheel and will learn to mix tints. (Adding white to a color to make it lighter.)

They will use a variety of paint media including acrylic, tempera and watercolor paints and will learn the best methods for each.

Clay

Students will learn how to manipulate the clay and familiarize themselves with the correct terminology and procedures.

Students will review clay hand building skills such as rolling a slab, impressing texture, appliquéing, creating a pinch pot, and using coils. Additional projects include sunflower bowls, self-portraits, and heart frames.

They will learn to use a clay extruder and how to attach pieces of clay together with slip or water. They will use a slump mold to create a clay leaf bowl.

Art History:

The students will learn and review a variety of artists. Art as an expression of a time and culture will be explored will be explored. Multicultural art will also be discussed.

The children will learn that people all over the world use materials that are native to their country and that many crafts and art are done with different variations all over the world.

They will study and do work inspired by famous artists. This includes, but is not limited to, Van Gogh, Matisse, Calder, Mondrian, and Pollock.

Sculpture:

Students will explore a variety of media and styles of sculpture. These include making Halloween scenes and endangered animals in their habitat out of clay.

Students will create a large paper mache item, the topic may vary from year to year.

Fibers:

Students will continue to explore various fiber media including creating puppets.

Students will design and hand sew their own felt puppet.

The children will learn to sew using a sewing machine, under adult supervision, to create the cloth part of their puppet.

The children will do rag weaving and more complex yarn weavings incorporating a design and using different textures.