

Beginning Art Overview

Pathways' Art classes follow the Meridian School District's Curriculum. We create in a unique setting and therefore make adaptations as we function without running water and appropriate room for storing supplies or the student's work in progress between class sessions.

In beginning Art, students are expected to learn fundamental concepts of art and design. These fundamental concepts are: the Elements of Art, The Principles of Art, and Color Theory along with Art History. Students will also work with a variety of media and learn the nature of these media and the proper care and maintenance of art materials.

The Elements of Art: Line, Shape, Form, Value, Color, Texture, and Space. These seven elements are always present in all works of art. Students will be able to identify these elements in any work of art. Additionally art is appreciated through a framework known as the Principles of Art.

The Principles of Art: Balance, Emphasis, Variety, Contrast, Rhythm, Unity and Movement. Students are required to become familiar with the Principles of art as well, and to be able to distinguish between both the Elements of Art and the Principles of Art.

Color Theory is another major topic of study in beginning art. Students will learn about colors and a variety of shades of individual colors, and they will learn four major color schemes: Monochromatic, Complimentary, Triadic, and Analogous color schemes.

In addition students will learn about linear perspective, and a variety of art styles: Surrealism, Impressionism, Realism, and Abstract art. Students will learn about a variety of well known artists whose work is representative of these styles of art: Salvador Dali, and M.C. Escher- surrealism; Claude Monet and Vincent Van Gough – impressionism; Renaissance artists Leonardo di Vinci, Michelangelo and Raphael- realism.

Critiquing and Art Appreciation

Another large aspect of art is that of Art Appreciation. Students work will be evaluated throughout the semester on the principles of Art through an established Art Critiquing/Appreciation format. Thus they will become familiar with the process that art is evaluated in the "adult" world. Beginning Art students will progressively be evaluated as they are taught the Elements and Principles of Art. They will only be held accountable for those they have received instruction and for which they were expected to learn and develop. (Please see rubric below.)

Art is critiqued based on how well the elements of art are employed and with the Principles of Art as a guide. Critiquing considers how well an artist utilized these aspects in their work rather than if the "subject" or piece of art work is something an individual "likes." This liberates an artist from the restraints of "beauty is in the eyes of the beholder." Art work is therefore evaluated based on the merit of how well the Elements of Art and the Principles of Art are employed. Please see a copy of the rubric below.

Art Work Critique - Grade Sheet Rubric.

Students work will be evaluated through the steps to critiquing and based on the Principles of Art.

Steps to Critiquing:

Describe: What is the subject, and what medium, and style were used?

Analyze: How were the Elements of Art and Principles of Art used in the work of art

Interpret: What “statement” was the artist trying to say, and is it a clear statement?

Judgment: Do you think the work of art is successful? (Not do you like it?)

Principles of Art:

- B Balance** (Space, Value, Color)
- E Emphasis** (Main subject is clear to identify)
- V Variety** Different colors/shapes textures etc....

- C Contrast** Some contrast used to intentionally draw attention
- R Rhythm** Patterns and repetition of patterns/themes in a work
- U Unity** Composition goes together
- M Movement** Draws the eye around Line, Form, Space, Value

Seven Elements

Students are graded on only those elements that have been presented for instruction in the class- hence those circled:

	Line	Shape	Form	Value	Color	Space	Texture
	0	1	2	3	3.5		
Describe	Subject of this work is unknown, and needs a full explanation	Subject of this work is unclear, and needs explanation	Subject of this work is difficult to understand, needs some explanation	Subject of this work is very easy to understand, no explanation is needed	Subject of this work is very clear, and shown in a unique/creative manner		
Analyze	The Element of Art that was the focus of this lesson is not well represented. Demonstrates little effort.	Some (2-3) Principles of Art are present; this lesson’s Element of Art is used. Work clearly could be improved.	Most (4-5) Principles of Art are present; and (2-3) required Elements of Art are used well. Some room for improvement	All (6) Principles of Art are present. All required Elements of Art are used well.	All Principles of Art are present. All Elements of Art are used well, and are creatively integrated with one another.		
Interpret	Very weak or no statement made by this work of art.	It is unclear what kind of statement this work of art is making.	This work of art makes a statement	This work of art makes a clear statement.	This work of art makes a strong, and compelling statement.		
Judgment	This work of art is confusing to the viewer.	This work of art attempts to communicate a message or idea to the viewer.	This work of art is partially successful in craftsmanship and in communicating an idea.	This work of art is successful in craftsmanship and in communicating an idea to the viewer.	This work of art is very successful in craftsmanship and in communicating an idea to the viewer.		
Use of Medium	Poor use of medium.	Questionable use of	Work shows a “Genuine”	Work shows good use of	Work shows excellent use		

	Work demonstrates poor effort.	medium, shows clear room for improvement	attempt to use the medium as assigned.	medium as assigned, and attempts to take media to next level.	of medium! Shows great competency with media, in a creative attempt to take media to a new level.
Total					

Remarkable features of this work are:

Elements or Principles that may help improve the quality of your art work:

Beginning Art

- Practice elements of design and introduction to the 10 principles of design
- Famous artists throughout history
- Produce artwork in a variety of art media
- Practice art criticism and appreciation skills