

Kindergarten – Shape Detectives

Description

Artists use shapes to create everything from animals and plants to buildings and imaginary worlds. By looking closely at photographs, nature, and artwork, students discover circles, squares, triangles, rectangles, and other shapes all around them and learn how artists combine simple shapes to create pictures of their own.

National Core Arts Standards

- **VA:Cr1.1.Ka** – Engage in exploration and imaginative play with materials.
 - **VA:Cr2.1.Ka** – Through experimentation, build skills in various media and approaches to art-making.
 - **VA:Cn10.1.Ka** – Create art that tells a story about a life experience.
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Idaho Curriculum Connections

Mathematics

- Identify and describe common two-dimensional shapes, including circles, triangles, squares, and rectangles.
- Combine simple shapes to create larger shapes and pictures.

Science

- Recognize shapes and patterns found in plants, animals, and other natural objects.
- Use careful observation to notice similarities and differences.

English Language Arts

- Use words to describe shapes, colors, and details they observe.
- Share ideas and observations with others.

Visual Arts

- Identify shapes as an element artists use to create artwork.
 - Explore how artists combine shapes to represent people, animals, plants, and objects.
 - Use observation and imagination to create artwork from simple shapes.
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Learning Targets

Students will:

- Identify circles, triangles, squares, rectangles, and ovals in their surroundings.
- Discover shapes hidden within photographs of real objects, animals, and nature.
- Identify how artists use and change shapes in their artwork.
- Follow a guided drawing using simple shapes.
- Combine shapes to create an original drawing.

1st Grade – The Artful Garden

Description

Nature has inspired artists around the world for thousands of years. By observing plants, flowers, insects, and animals, artists discover patterns, colors, and textures that help them create beautiful works of art.

National Core Arts Standards

- **VA:Cr2.1.1a** – Explore uses of materials and tools to create works of art.
 - **VA:Cr3.1.1a** – Use art vocabulary to describe choices made while creating artwork.
 - **VA:Re7.1.1a** – Identify and describe details in works of art.
 - **VA:Cn10.1.1a** – Create artwork inspired by observations of the natural world.
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Idaho Curriculum Connections

Science

- Observe and describe the parts of plants and animals.
- Understand that plants and animals have structures that help them survive.
- Explore how pollinators help plants grow and reproduce.

English Language Arts

- Ask and answer questions about informational texts.
- Observe details and describe what is seen.

Visual Arts

- Observe nature closely and use those observations to create original works of art.
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Learning Targets

Students will:

- Observe plants and animals like an artist.
- Identify patterns, colors, and textures found in nature.
- Explain why pollinators are important.
- Create artwork inspired by the natural world.
- Use observation skills to make artistic choices.

2nd Grade – Art Across Cultures

Description

People around the world create art that reflects their history, beliefs, traditions, and everyday life. By studying art from different cultures, students discover both the unique qualities of each culture and the common threads that connect us all.

National Core Arts Standards

- **VA:Cr1.1.2a** – Brainstorm collaboratively multiple approaches to an art or design problem.
 - **VA:Re7.2.2a** – Use information gained from visual images to understand the world.
 - **VA:Cn10.1.2a** – Create works of art about events in home, school, or community life.
 - **VA:Cn11.1.2a** – Compare cultural uses of artwork from different times and places.
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Idaho Curriculum Connections

Social Studies

- Compare traditions and customs of different cultures.
- Explore how geography influences the way people live.
- Recognize that communities around the world have similarities and differences.

English Language Arts

- Ask and answer questions about informational texts.
- Compare stories from different cultures.

Visual Arts

- Observe, discuss, and create artwork inspired by diverse artistic traditions.
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Learning Targets

Students will:

- Identify characteristics of artwork from several cultures.
- Compare similarities and differences between artistic traditions.
- Recognize that artists create art for different purposes around the world.
- Use symbols, patterns, and design ideas inspired by another culture.
- Create an original artwork inspired by a cultural art tradition.
- Explain how art reflects a culture's history and traditions.

3rd Grade – Wild Idaho

Description

Artists learn about wildlife by carefully observing animals and the places they live. By traveling through four Idaho ecosystems, students will discover how artists use shapes, lines, textures, patterns, and details to draw Idaho animals.

National Core Arts Standards

- **VA:Cr3.1.3a** – Revise artwork based on reflection.
 - **VA:Re7.1.3a** – Speculate about processes an artist uses to create a work of art.
 - **VA:Cn10.1.3a** – Develop artwork inspired by observations of the natural world.
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Idaho Curriculum Connections

Science

- Explore Idaho's ecosystems and habitats.
- Investigate how plants and animals survive in different environments.
- Identify physical and behavioral adaptations that help organisms survive.

English Language Arts

- Use information from photographs, illustrations, and informational text to answer questions.
- Describe observations using evidence.

Visual Arts

- Observe the natural world and create artwork inspired by real-life experiences and careful observation.
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Learning Targets

Students will:

- Observe Idaho wildlife like an artist and scientist.
- Identify adaptations that help animals survive.
- Compare the characteristics of different Idaho habitats.
- Use texture, pattern, and color to communicate ideas.
- Record observations through drawing.
- Explain how artists use observation to create artwork.

4th Grade – Exploring Eastern Idaho Landscapes

Description

Artists help us see the beauty in the places we call home. By observing Eastern Idaho's mountains, rivers, Sagebrush plains, and wildflower meadows, students discover how artists use line, color, texture, and perspective to tell the story of Idaho.

National Core Arts Standards

- **VA:Cr1.1.4a** – Brainstorm multiple approaches to a creative art problem.
 - **VA:Re7.2.4a** – Analyze components in visual imagery that convey messages.
 - **VA:Cn10.1.4a** – Create artwork inspired by personal observations and experiences.
 - **VA:Cn11.1.4a** – Through observation, infer information about time, place, and culture in artwork.
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Idaho Curriculum Connections

Idaho Studies / Social Studies

- Explore the geography of Idaho and Eastern Idaho.
- Identify important landforms and natural landmarks.
- Understand how geography influences where people live, work, and recreate.

Science

- Observe landforms shaped by volcanic activity, rivers, weather, and erosion.
- Describe how natural features make each landscape unique.

English Language Arts

- Use observations from photographs and artwork to describe a place using evidence and details.

Visual Arts

- Observe landscapes and create artwork inspired by real places.
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Learning Targets

Students will:

- Identify major landforms found in Eastern Idaho.
- Explain how artists use foreground, middle ground, and background to create depth.
- Observe how color, texture, and line help tell the story of a landscape.
- Record observations through sketching.
- Create original landscape drawings inspired by Eastern Idaho.

5th – 7th Grade – Artists as Storytellers

Description

Artists have always used art to tell stories about who they are, where they come from, what they have experienced, and what matters to them. By studying artists from different times and cultures, students discover that their own experiences can become meaningful works of art.

National Core Arts Standards

5th Grade

- **VA:Cr1.1.5a** – Combine ideas to generate an innovative idea for art-making.
- **VA:Re8.1.5a** – Interpret art by analyzing characteristics of form and structure, contextual information, subject matter, visual elements, and use of media.
- **VA:Cn10.1.5a** – Apply formal and conceptual vocabularies of art and design to view surroundings in new ways through art-making.
- **VA:Cn11.1.5a** – Identify how art is used to inform or change beliefs, values, or behaviors of an individual or society.

6th Grade

- **VA:Cr1.1.6a** – Combine concepts collaboratively to generate innovative ideas for creating art.
- **VA:Re8.1.6a** – Interpret art by distinguishing between relevant and non-relevant contextual information and analyzing subject matter, characteristics of form and structure, and use of media.
- **VA:Cn10.1.6a** – Generate a collection of ideas reflecting current interests and concerns that could be investigated in art-making.
- **VA:Cn11.1.6a** – Analyze how art reflects changing times, traditions, resources, and cultural uses.

7th Grade

- **VA:Cr2.3.7a** – Apply visual organizational strategies to create artwork that clearly communicates information or ideas.
 - **VA:Cr3.1.7a** – Reflect on and explain important information about personal artwork in an artist statement or another format.
 - **VA:Re8.1.7a** – Interpret art by examining the artist's choices, subject matter, context, form, structure, and media to identify ideas and mood.
 - **VA:Cn11.1.7a** – Analyze how an artwork's time, place, available resources, and cultural context influence its meaning and how people respond to it.
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Idaho Curriculum Connections

Social Studies

- Examine how art reflects the lives, experiences, and perspectives of people throughout history.
- Explore how culture, community, and historical events influence personal stories.
- Compare how people from different cultures and time periods communicate their experiences.
- Use artwork as a source for learning about people and the past.

English Language Arts

- Explore **narrative storytelling** through personal experiences and memories.
- Identify themes, messages, and points of view.
- Use evidence from visual sources to support ideas.
- Compare different perspectives and ways of telling a story.
- Communicate personal experiences through visual narratives.

Visual Arts

- Analyze how artists use visual elements to communicate personal meaning.
 - Explore how artists use **symbols, imagery, color, and composition** to tell stories.
 - Connect artwork to an artist's life, culture, experiences, and surroundings.
 - Develop artistic ideas based on personal experiences, memories, interests, and identity.
 - Create visual imagery that communicates a personal story or message.
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Learning Targets

Students will:

- Discover how artists throughout history have told personal stories through art.
- Analyze clues in artwork that reveal information about an artist.
- Identify how artists use symbols, objects, places, color, and imagery to communicate meaning.
- Connect personal experiences and memories to artistic ideas.
- Develop symbols and images that represent aspects of their own lives.
- Use visual art to begin telling their own story.