Unit 1: What Do Artists Do?

Content Area: **Visual Arts**
Course(s): **Visual Arts**
Time Period: **Week 1**
Length: **4 Weeks**
Status: **Published**

Unit Overview

This unit introduces students to the work of artists. Students will learn about the different materials artists use. Students will use the medium of crayons and explore their functionality.

Standards

VPA.K-2.1.1.2.D.1	Identify the basic elements of art and principles of design in diverse types of artwork.
VPA.K-2.1.1.2.D.2	Identify elements of art and principles of design in specific works of art and explain how they are used.
VPA.K-2.1.3.2.D.1	Create two- and three-dimensional works of art using the basic elements of color, line, shape, form, texture, and space, as well as a variety of art mediums and application methods.
VPA.K-2.1.3.2.D.3	Employ basic verbal and visual art vocabulary to demonstrate knowledge of the materials, tools, and methodologies used to create and tell visual stories.
VPA.K-2.1.3.2.D.4	Explore the use of a wide array of art mediums and select tools that are appropriate to the production of works of art in a variety of art media.
VPA.K-2.1.3.2.D.5	Create works of art that are based on observations of the physical world and that illustrate how art is part of everyday life, using a variety of art mediums and art media.

Essential Questions

1. Why is art necessary?

2. How do people express themselves through art today?
3. What choices must an artist make before beginning a work?

Application of Knowledge and Skills...

Students will know that...

- 1. Self-portrait pictures always include the subject's face.
- 2. Artists have great skill and creativity.
- 3. Four types of lines are: straight, curved, zig-zag, and spiral.
- 4. Crayon colors can be blended by using different colors and applying different amounts of pressure.

Students will be able to...

- a. Draw a self-portrait.
- b. Identify that skill and creativity are important traits of artists.
- c. Draw four types of lines: straight, curved, zig-zag, and spiral.
- d. Blend at least two different crayon colors to produce a third color.

Assessments

- Blending Colors Summative: Other visual assessments Students will demonstrate how to blend crayon colors using different amounts of pressure. 1.1.2.D.1 1.3.2.D.1 1.3.2.D.3 1.3.2.D.4
- Four Different Lines Formative: Other visual assessments Students will draw four lines: straight, curved, zig-zag, and spiral. 1.3.2.D.3 1.3.2.D.5
- I Am an Artist Formative: Other visual assessments Students will draw a picture representing themselves as artists. 1.1.2.D.1 1.3.2.D.3
- Self-Portrait Diagnostic: Other visual assessments Students will draw a self-portrait. 1.3.2.D.1 1.3.2.D.5

Activities

- View and discuss *Mona Lisa* by Leonardo da Vinci
- View and Discuss *Self-Portrait* by Leonardo da Vinci
- Discuss the difference between a portrait and a self-portrait
- Draw a self-portrait and discuss it
- Read In a Painting by Susan Canizares to the students; engage students to discuss the book
- Read I am an Artist by Pat Lowery Collins to the students; engage students to discuss the book
- Demonstrate for the students four types of lines: straight, curved, zig-zag, and spiral
- Draw a design using only the four basic line shapes
- Share line designs with the class
- Show students pictures and ask them to identify different types of lines in the picture
- Demonstrate for students how different degrees of pressure affect the outcome when drawing with

crayons

Activities to Differentiate Instruction

- Add a background to the students' self portraits
- Use different colors when drawing each of the four different types of lines
- Color the spaces inbetween the four lines using different colors
- Students work at their own pace/teacher-reduced project expectations
- Review and repeat instructions
- Use proximity control
- Incorporate frequent modeling and prompting
- Use visuals, when possible, to accompany instructions
- Preferential seating

Integrated/Cross-Disciplinary Instruction

The English language arts teacher may read aloud Leonardo da Vinci by Tony Hart. Reading this picture book will provide the students with background information about the famous artist Leonardo da Vinci and his childhood.

Resources

- Explorations in Art by Cathy Weisman Topal, Davis Publications, 2008
- I am an Artist by Pat Lowery Collins, Millbrook Press, 1994
- In a Painting by Susan Canizares, Scholastic Incorporated, 1998
- Leonardo da Vinci by Tony Hart, Barron's Educational Series, 1994
- Art supplies