

# Unit 1: Ceramics

Content Area: **Unified Arts**  
Course(s): **Art 6**  
Time Period: **September**  
Length: **10 Days**  
Status: **Published**

## Unit Summary

The sixth grade visual arts program will build and expand on the New Jersey Visual Arts Standards and previously learned techniques from the fifth grade units. The principle and elements of design along with art production, history, aesthetics, and criticism will be used to develop the necessary skills for a balanced art education. These areas of art education will be taught for personal understanding and appreciation for everyday functional products and art awareness. We will learn the basics of hand building with clay including the coil method to create three dimensional works of art.

## Standards

VPA.1.1.8	All students will demonstrate an understanding of the elements and principles that govern the creation of works of art in dance, music, theatre, and visual art.
VPA.1.1.8.D	Visual Art
VPA.1.1.8.D.1	Describe the intellectual and emotional significance conveyed by the application of the elements of art and principles of design in different historical eras and cultures.
VPA.1.1.8.D.2	Compare and contrast various masterworks of art from diverse cultures, and identify elements of the works that relate to specific cultural heritages.
VPA.1.1.8.D.CS1	Art is a universal language. Visual communication through art crosses cultural and language barriers throughout time.
VPA.1.1.8.D.CS2	The study of masterworks of art from diverse cultures and different historical eras assists in understanding specific cultures.
VPA.1.2.8	All students will understand the role, development, and influence of the arts throughout history and across cultures.
VPA.1.2.8.A	History of the Arts and Culture
VPA.1.2.8.A.1	Map historical innovations in dance, music, theatre, and visual art that were caused by the creation of new technologies.
VPA.1.2.8.A.2	Differentiate past and contemporary works of dance, music, theatre, and visual art that represent important ideas, issues, and events that are chronicled in the histories of diverse cultures.
VPA.1.2.8.A.3	Analyze the social, historical, and political impact of artists on culture and the impact of culture on the arts.
VPA.1.2.8.A.CS1	Technological changes have and will continue to substantially influence the development and nature of the arts.
VPA.1.2.8.A.CS2	Tracing the histories of dance, music, theatre, and visual art in world cultures provides insight into the lives of people and their values.
VPA.1.2.8.A.CS3	The arts reflect cultural mores and personal aesthetics throughout the ages.
VPA.1.3.8	All students will synthesize those skills, media, methods, and technologies appropriate to creating, performing, and/or presenting works of art in dance, music, theatre, and visual art.

VPA.1.3.8.D	Visual Art
VPA.1.3.8.D.1	Incorporate various art elements and the principles of balance, harmony, unity, emphasis, proportion, and rhythm/movement in the creation of two- and three- dimensional artworks, using a broad array of art media and art mediums to enhance the expression of creative ideas (e.g., perspective, implied space, illusionary depth, value, and pattern).
VPA.1.3.8.D.2	Apply various art media, art mediums, technologies, and processes in the creation of allegorical, theme-based, two- and three-dimensional works of art, using tools and technologies that are appropriate to the theme and goals.
VPA.1.3.8.D.3	Identify genres of art (including realism, abstract/nonobjective art, and conceptual art) within various contexts using appropriate art vocabulary, and solve hands-on visual problems using a variety of genre styles.
VPA.1.3.8.D.4	Delineate the thematic content of multicultural artworks, and plan, design, and execute multiple solutions to challenging visual arts problems, expressing similar thematic content.
VPA.1.3.8.D.5	Examine the characteristics, thematic content, and symbolism found in works of art from diverse cultural and historical eras, and use these visual statements as inspiration for original artworks.
VPA.1.3.8.D.6	Synthesize the physical properties, processes, and techniques for visual communication in multiple art media (including digital media), and apply this knowledge to the creation of original artworks.
VPA.1.3.8.D.CS1	The creation of art is driven by the principles of balance, harmony, unity, emphasis, proportion, and rhythm/movement.
VPA.1.3.8.D.CS2	Themes in art are often communicated through symbolism, allegory, or irony. There are a wide variety of art mediums, each having appropriate tools and processes for the production of artwork. Fluency in these mediums, and the use of the appropriate tools associated with working in these mediums, are components of art-making.
VPA.1.3.8.D.CS3	The classification of art into various art genres depends on the formal aspects of visual statements (e.g., physical properties, theoretical components, cultural context). Many genres of art are associated with discipline-specific arts terminology.
VPA.1.3.8.D.CS4	Universal themes exist in art across historical eras and cultures. Art may embrace multiple solutions to a problem.
VPA.1.3.8.D.CS5	Each of the many genres of art is associated with discipline-specific arts terminology and a stylistic approach to art-making.
VPA.1.3.8.D.CS6	The visual possibilities and inherent qualities of traditional and contemporary art materials (including digital media) may inform choices about visual communication and art-making techniques.
VPA.1.4.8	All students will demonstrate and apply an understanding of arts philosophies, judgment, and analysis to works of art in dance, music, theatre, and visual art.
VPA.1.4.8.A	Aesthetic Responses
VPA.1.4.8.A.1	Generate observational and emotional responses to diverse culturally and historically specific works of dance, music, theatre, and visual art.
VPA.1.4.8.A.2	Identify works of dance, music, theatre, and visual art that are used for utilitarian and non-utilitarian purposes.
VPA.1.4.8.A.3	Distinguish among artistic styles, trends, and movements in dance, music, theatre, and visual art within diverse cultures and historical eras.
VPA.1.4.8.A.4	Compare and contrast changes in the accepted meanings of known artworks over time, given shifts in societal norms, beliefs, or values.
VPA.1.4.8.A.5	Interpret symbolism and metaphors embedded in works of dance, music, theatre, and visual art.
VPA.1.4.8.A.6	Differentiate between “traditional” works of art and those that do not use conventional

	elements of style to express new ideas.
VPA.1.4.8.A.7	Analyze the form, function, craftsmanship, and originality of representative works of dance, music, theatre, and visual art.
VPA.1.4.8.A.CS1	Contextual clues to artistic intent are embedded in artworks. Analysis of archetypal or consummate works of art requires knowledge and understanding of culturally specific art within historical contexts.
VPA.1.4.8.A.CS2	Art may be used for utilitarian and non-utilitarian purposes.
VPA.1.4.8.A.CS3	Performance technique in dance, music, theatre, and visual art varies according to historical era and genre.
VPA.1.4.8.A.CS4	Abstract ideas may be expressed in works of dance, music, theatre, and visual art using a genre's stylistic traits.
VPA.1.4.8.A.CS5	Symbolism and metaphor are characteristics of art and art-making.
VPA.1.4.8.A.CS6	Awareness of basic elements of style and design in dance, music, theatre, and visual art inform the creation of criteria for judging originality.
VPA.1.4.8.A.CS7	Artwork may be both utilitarian and non-utilitarian. Relative merits of works of art can be assessed through analysis of form, function, craftsmanship, and originality.
VPA.1.4.8.B	Critique Methodologies
VPA.1.4.8.B.1	Evaluate the effectiveness of a work of art by differentiating between the artist's technical proficiency and the work's content or form.
VPA.1.4.8.B.2	Differentiate among basic formal structures and technical proficiency of artists in works of dance, music, theatre, and visual art.
VPA.1.4.8.B.3	Compare and contrast examples of archetypal subject matter in works of art from diverse cultural contexts and historical eras by writing critical essays.
VPA.1.4.8.B.CS1	Assessing a work of art without critiquing the artist requires objectivity and an understanding of the work's content and form.
VPA.1.4.8.B.CS2	Visual fluency is the ability to differentiate formal and informal structures and objectively apply observable criteria to the assessment of artworks, without consideration of the artist.
VPA.1.4.8.B.CS3	Universal elements of art and principles of design apply equally to artwork across cultures and historical eras.
CAEP.9.2.8.B.3	Evaluate communication, collaboration, and leadership skills that can be developed through school, home, work, and extracurricular activities for use in a career.
TECH.8.1.8.A.1	Demonstrate knowledge of a real world problem using digital tools.
TECH.8.1.8.A.CS1	Understand and use technology systems.
TECH.8.1.8.A.CS2	Select and use applications effectively and productively.
TECH.8.1.8.D.CS2	Demonstrate personal responsibility for lifelong learning.

## Student Learning Objectives

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- Students will learn functional design.
- Students will learn experimental technique construction.
- Students will learn Egyptian, Greek, Peruvian, African, and American-Indian ceramics.
- Students will learn to glaze ceramic pieces.
- Students will learn to critique their own work.
- Students will learn techniques and processes.
- Students will learn structures and functions.

- Students will learn visual arts and other disciplines.

## Essential Questions

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- How do the elements and principles help create a meaningful piece of art?
- How do I use the elements and principles of design to create effective art works?
- How can I apply the creative process beyond this subject area? (other subjects, real world)
- How do underlying structures unconsciously guide the creation of art works?
- How does creating in the arts differ from viewing the arts?
- What's the difference between a thoughtful and a thoughtless artistic judgment?

## Enduring Understandings

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- Students will understand that breaking accepted norms often gives rise to new forms of artistic expression.
- Students will understand that culture affects self-expression, whether we realize it or not.
- Students will understand that every artist has a style; every artistic period has a style.
- Students will understand that though the artist's imagination and intuition drives the work, great art requires skills and discipline to turn notions into a quality product.
- Students will understand that the critical process of observing, describing, analyzing, interpreting, and evaluating leads to informed judgments regarding the relative merits of artworks.

## Application

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- Students will be able to independently use their learning for sensory and motor skills development.
- Students will be able to independently use their learning to promote their esteem and expression.
- Students will be able to independently use their learning to problem solve.
- Students will be able to independently use their learning to develop discipline, pride, and self worth.
- Students will be able to independently use their learning to experience a calming effect.
- Students will be able to independently use their learning to enhance their perceptions.
- Students will be able to independently use their learning to make observations and develop their visual intelligence.

## Skills

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Students will be skilled at:

- Utilizing art materials and tools in a safe and responsible manner.
- Selecting and utilizing the qualities of structures and functions of art to improve communication of their ideas.
- Distinguishing and comparing the characteristics of art works in various eras and cultures.
- Analyzing, describing, and demonstrating how factors of time and place (such as climate, resources, ideas, and technology) influence visual characteristics that give meaning and value to a work of art.

- Comparing multiple purposes for creating works of art.

## Resources

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- Posters of famous art works by famous artists.
- Art technique demonstration posters.
- Poster of project unit objectives.
- Poster of essential questions.
- On-line videos for demonstrations and ideas for project
- Slide presentation for ideas of former student work.