

Woodstock Elementary Art Program

Through a wide variety of two and three-dimensional mediums, art classes at Woodstock Elementary are sequential and give students both a visual and verbal language to experiment with art elements, express feelings and communicate ideas. Students study the art elements of line, form, space, texture, color, shape, and value and the principles of design, including balance, movement, rhythm, contrast, emphasis, pattern and unity. Students learn how to apply the elements and principles of design in viewing, creating, analyzing and critiquing their own and others' artwork. Children are given a historical perspective in which to view master works of art, artistic movements and art from other cultures. Thematic integration of curriculum within the unified arts disciplines and with classroom teachers inspires deep learning experiences for WES students.

Kindergarten and First Grade students study the elements of line, shape, color, and texture. They are introduced to primary and secondary color theory, symmetry, cutting, gluing, an array of drawing materials, water color and tempera paints, wax-resist method, print-making, pinch pots, clay sculpture, wood sculpture and collage. Vocabulary includes tools, techniques, mediums and master artists. Students are encouraged to find similarities and differences between works of art, using the vocabulary they are developing. Students learn the differences between landscapes, portraits, still lifes and non-objective art, as well as the difference between geometric and biomorphic shapes and are given beginning tools to create the illusion of depth.

Second Grade students continue to build upon the skills and mediums learned in the previous grades, and add the art elements of value and form. Students learn the differences between the art movements of realism, impressionism and abstract art, and do first hand drawing from nature. Oil pastels, more advanced clay techniques and additional master artists are introduced.

Third Grade students add radial symmetry, stenciling, diagramming, and transferring designs by grid. Op art weaving, watercolor techniques, more advanced clay techniques and additional master artists are introduced.

Fourth Grade students study the principles of design in more depth, and experiment with abstract art and junk art. They learn contour line drawing and new printmaking methods. Color theory includes monochromatic, analogous, and cool and warm color palettes. Clay work includes sculpture and draped imprinted bowls. Additional master artists are introduced.

Fifth Grade study techniques to create the illusion of depth, work with pastels and charcoal, and learn shading, stippling, and cross-hatching. Students create their own haiku, and are introduced to Sufi ink, brush and rice paper, papier-mache, portraiture, and tessellations. Clay work includes sculpture, bas-relief and revolutionary war period reproduction red ware and slip trailing.

Sixth Grade students study the design principles of balance, emphasis, movement and unity as they learn how the Hudson River School of artists were involved with westward expansion and the conservation movement. Students explore the simplicity of design in mobiles and stabiles, while working with wire and paper. They learn perspective drawing, create self-portraits, advanced clay pots and sculptures and give oral class presentations of master artists' biographies and artistic styles.