

6th Grade Exploratory Art

Welcome to my class! I am looking forward to these 9 weeks in Art. Please take a few minutes to read through this letter outlining art room procedures and expectations.

Course Content:

In art class, our course of study will focus upon planning, problem-solving and using the elements and principles of design in order to create expressive, metacognitive works of art (students are encouraged to take risks and make mistakes.) Students will be exposed to a variety of both two and three-dimensional materials and mediums. They will also have opportunities to critique the works of others as well as their own. Through art, students will all make connections to different cultures and time periods.

Objectives

1. Students will create artworks using a variety of media and techniques.
2. Students will identify major artists and styles.
3. Students will begin to analyze their own artwork, other student's work and the work of well-known artists through critiques and in-class writing.
4. Students will develop their own style by creating sketches to plan for major art projects.
5. Students will create a portfolio of work throughout the course that demonstrates increasing skill and ability. At the end of the quarter, students will bring this work home.
6. Students will maintain a visual journal in which to keep class notes, sketches, observational items and vocabulary.
7. Improve his/her verbal skills by learning the visual vocabulary and apply those terms during class discussions, critique and projects.
8. Ask questions, make mistakes, think, learn, create and have fun!

Behavior

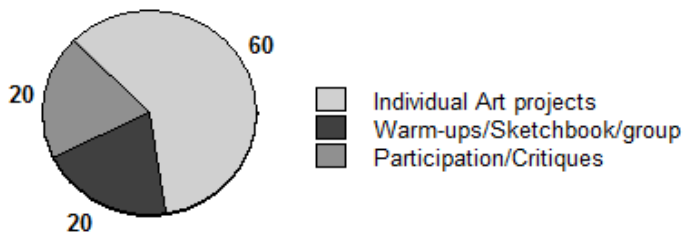
Just as you have high expectations for me as your teacher, I have high expectations for you as my student. I expect all students to adhere to the RISE expectations in our Art room. I expect you to come to class on time, prepared and ready to create original artwork. **You are required to bring a folder, pencil and eraser every day to class.** While you are here, please be responsible and **safe** with supplies and always be on task so you can do your best work. If you cannot complete a project or assignment on time, it is **your responsibility** to speak with me about an extension.

The art room is a place of **mutual respect**. I expect you to treat your peers, your teacher (whether a substitute or me), and yourself with the highest level of respect. Please be polite and do not put down your artwork or the artwork of another classmate. If appropriate behavior becomes a challenge for you, we will meet to find a solution. If necessary, we will then include parents and administrators.

Special Expectations:

1. Come to class prepared, on time, and with required materials.
2. Turn in completed projects in assigned location.
3. Label all work clearly with first name, last name and period.
4. Clean your entire area at the end of the period. Check the floors for trash, put art materials away in designated location. Make sure chairs are pushed in and tables are wiped down if dirty.

GRADING:



The grading of artwork will be divided into three categories: **Individual projects** (rubrics will be provided based upon our proficiency scale of 4, 3, 2, 1), class work (**notebook/sketchbook**) and **participation in critiques**. Projects are the final evaluation of the student's ability to demonstrate his/her problem-solving skills as well as mastery of the techniques and ideas learned and practiced in class.

Effective artists **constantly practice** their drawing skills in journals or sketchbooks. As part of the middle school art program, students are required to

complete sketchbook assignments as homework. **You will be assigned 4 sketchbook assignments to help you build your creative drawing skills. Due dates and topics will be clearly posted in the art room.** If you have any difficulty with these assignments feel free to use open office hours in order to complete these assignments.

Art projects and sketch assignments are evaluated using grading rubrics. Rubrics will focus on concepts I hope you will master during the 9 week period. These include your **understanding of art skills/vocabulary, craftsmanship, problem solving, originality/communication, and self-reflection.** Levels of mastery for each concept will be explained in detail during class. In addition I will be evaluating your use of class time to develop your skills and complete your projects and assignments. I believe this to be very important in your artistic development. Grades will be posted via infinite campus.

Never hesitate to contact me with your questions. Email is the easiest way to get in touch with me quickly.

Please allow me 24 hours to return phone calls.

Many thanks!

Email: sheena.matheson@bvsd.org

school phone: 303-561-2031

Requested Class items:

Pencil and notebook (feel free to keep these in the artroom.)

Please turn in your art fee to the office.

