

Unit 2: Elements of Art
6th Grade Art
18 Class Meetings

Created May 2023, Updated March 2026

• Essential Questions

- How can the artist use elements to create effective art?
- How can elements convey a message?

Enduring Understandings with Unit Goals

EU 1: Artists use elements of art and principles of design to organize visual communication. The seven elements of art are the building blocks of all visual language.

- Analyze elements used in various artworks.
- Compare and contrast various works of art based on elements used.

EU 2: Art elements can be used intentionally to elicit a specific response from the viewer.

- Analyze elements used in various artworks.
- Compare and contrast various works of art based on elements.
- Analyze peer works of art based on the 7 elements.
- Create a work of art that demonstrates knowledge of the 7 elements.

Standards

Common Core State Standards:

- **VA:Cr1.1.6a:** Combine concepts collaboratively to generate innovative ideas for creating art.
- **VA:Cr2.1.6a:** Demonstrate openness in trying new ideas, materials, methods, and approaches in making works of art and design.
- **VA:Cr.3.1.6a:** Reflect on whether personal artwork conveys the intended meaning and revise accordingly.
- **ELA-Literacy:** cite text-based evidence to support an analysis of informational text. (RI 6.1)

ISAAC Vision of the Graduate Competencies

Competency 1: Write effectively for a variety of purposes.

Competency 2: Speak to diverse audiences in an accountable manner.

Competency 3: Develop the behaviors needed to interact and contribute with others on a team.

Competency 4: Analyze and solve problems independently and collaboratively.

Competency 5: Be responsible, creative, and empathetic members of the community.

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Unit Content Overview

1. Art Analysis

- Describe a work of art based on visual observations.
- Analyze and interpret works of art.
- Evaluate works of art.
- Key vocabulary and terms: observations, describe, analyze, interpret, evaluate

2. The Building Blocks of Art

- Describe and illustrate each of the seven elements of art.
- Distinguish all seven elements of art in various images.
- Compare and contrast images using art vocabulary to interpret meaning.
- Key vocabulary and terms: visual language, line, shape, color, value, space, form, texture.

3. Art Creation and critique

- Plan and draft a 2D project; Elements of Art.
- Examine rubric criteria and student exemplars.
- Create a final image that conveys knowledge of; Elements of Art.
- Evaluate and reflect on your own work.
- Critique a peer's image using the art analysis process.
- Demonstrate vocabulary and content knowledge with quizzes.
- Key vocabulary and terms: rubric, criteria, peer, revise, well-crafted, reflect.

Interdisciplinary Connection:

- Language Arts
- Math
- Social Studies
- Science

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Daily Learning Objectives with *Do Now Activities*

Students will be able to...

- Engage with each of the 7 **elements of art****
What are the basic building blocks of art?
- Explore what **line** means and how lines are used in art.*
How is line used in used in almost every artwork?
- Infer what **shape** means.*
Sketch all the different shapes you can think of.
- Assess **form** in the context of art.***
What do you think form means?
- Integrate **space** into a composition?**How is space important in a composition?*
- Compare different **textures** artists can use.*
How can texture change a piece of art?
- Distinguish the differences in **value**.***
How can value enhance a drawing or painting?
- Point out how **color** is used to express mood?***
Do different colors bring on different emotions?
- Combine all seven elements of art in an image to create a 2D artwork.***
How can you incorporate all the elements in one 2D project?
- Critique a peer's image using art analysis process and *summarize* vocabulary and content knowledge via quizzes.
What is the importance of reflection within the art making process?

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Instructional Strategies/Differentiated Instruction

- Visual Demonstrations
- Student-led instruction
- Independent problem-solving
- Feedback and Critique
- Revising and editing
- Collaborative problem-solving
- Cross-curricular problem solving (independent and collaborative)
- Accountable Talk
- Homework

EL Strategies

- Word walls
- TWPS (Think, write, pair, share)
- Pre-reading strategies
- Culturally responsive teaching
- Explicit modeling
- Key Vocabulary
- Graphic organizers
- Strategic grouping
- Non-verbal Assessments

Assessments

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENTS:

- Warm-ups (TWPS)
- Sticky note critiques
- Mid-class check-ins
- Exit Slips
- Accountable Talk Discussions
- Student-led instruction
- Homework
- Image Performance Task
- Weekly Studio Grades

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENTS:

- Quiz 1 - EU 1
- Vocab. Unit 1 Quiz
- Unit Task – 2D Illustration

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Unit Task

Unit Task Name: Elements of Art

Description: Students will use art vocabulary and image making to create a 2D color image that conveys a specific mood and/or idea. Students must use all 7 elements of art.

Evaluation: Summative Assessment and Responsibility Rubric.

Unit Resources

- Visual Images – Art History References
- Practice Worksheets
- Pencils
- Laptops
- Basic Art Materials (Paper, Paint, Marker, etc.)