



Mount Pleasant Central School District

6th Grade, Visual & Media Arts

We believe that all students should experience visual and media arts as an essential component of their total development, through which each child can refine their critical thinking skills by creating, presenting, responding, producing, and connecting with art and culture.

In 6th Grade Art & Design, students explore how artists use the elements of art and principles of design to communicate ideas. They experiment with a variety of materials and techniques while learning to express their own thoughts through visual storytelling. Along the way, they'll study diverse artists and cultures to inspire their creativity and deepen their understanding of the world around them. By the end of the year, students will have built confidence in both their artistic skills and their ability to think like designers.

Unit Title	Month	Content	Vocabulary	Standards	Skills	Big Ideas	Assessments
Portfolio Design and Artist Trading Cards	September/ January	Students create personal portfolios and artist trading cards to express their identity and practice foundational art and design skills.	Portfolio, Design, Symbol, Identity, Composition.	Develop and refine artistic techniques and presentation strategies to effectively share artworks. (VA:Pr5.1.6a)	Reflecting on and evaluating personal artwork. Organizing and curating a cohesive collection of work.	A portfolio is a way to organize and present your best work to communicate meaning and personal voice.	Completed digital portfolio
Drawing	September/ February	Students will explore how artists use bold lines, symbols, patterns, and color to express ideas and tell stories. They will experiment with composition, repetition, and personal symbolism while creating their own meaningful artworks.	Line, Shape, Form, Positive and negative space, Movement.	Explore new ideas, materials, and methods in art-making. (VA:Cr2.1.6a) Connect personal ideas to broader social themes in art. VA:Cn10.1.6a	Analyzing and interpreting the meaning of visual symbols. Experimenting with bold lines, shapes, and symbols in artwork.	Art communicates ideas, emotions, and social messages beyond words.	Students will be assessed in their creation of original artworks inspired by Keith Haring's style and themes. They will also submit sketchbook exercises, peer critique, and teacher feedback.

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Painting	October/ March	Students will explore basic watercolor approaches such as wet-on-wet/ wet-on-dry painting, layering, and mixing colors to create a unique art piece inspired by an artist.	Value, Horizon Line, Tints, Shades, Wet-on-wet, Wet-on-dry.	Demonstrate openness in exploring a new technique or material. (VA:Cr2.1.6)	Students will analyze and interpret the works of a historical artist Students will create a well-crafted painting using learned techniques.	Watercolor paint is an expressive medium that requires the students to be flexible and thoughtful in their planning.	Students will be assessed in their watercolor exploration in their sketchbooks, their final painting, and their reflection in their art portfolio.
3D Art	November/ April	Students explore three-dimensional art by learning how artists build forms using a variety of materials. They practice shaping, joining, and constructing to create sculptures that are sturdy and expressive.	Form, Structure, Balance, Armature, Additive / -Subtractive, Join / Attachment, Texture, Craftsmanship.	Practice conservation, care, safety, and clean up of art materials, tools, and equipment. (VA:Cr2.2.6)	Students will learn how to plan and build a sturdy three-dimensional artwork using safe and effective construction techniques. They will practice shaping forms, attaching materials securely, solving structural challenges, and refining their craftsmanship to create a polished final	Artists use three-dimensional materials to turn ideas into forms that exist in real space, and strong construction and problem-solving skills help bring those forms to life.	Students will be assessed on their completed sculpture, including its craftsmanship, stability, and creativity. They will also submit planning sketches or notes and a short reflection explaining their artistic choices and construction process in their

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					sculpture.		portfolios.
Exploring the World	December-January/ May	Students explore how different cultures throughout history have used art to express identity, beliefs, and traditions. They study one culture's artistic techniques or symbols and create their own artwork inspired by those traditions.	Culture, Identity, Culture, Tradition, Symbol / symbolism, Pattern, Influence / inspiration, Historical art, Design elements, Meaning / storytelling.	Identify and interpret works of art or design that reveal how people around the world live and what they value. (VA:Re7.1.6)	Students will learn how to recognize cultural symbols and artistic traditions and use them thoughtfully in their own work. They will practice designing, refining, and creating an artwork that respectfully incorporates techniques, patterns, or forms inspired by a historical culture.	Art connects us to the beliefs, traditions, and stories of cultures around the world, and artists can honor those traditions by learning from them and using them as inspiration.	Students will be assessed on their final artwork, including how well they applied cultural inspiration, design elements, and craftsmanship. They will also complete a short written or verbal reflection explaining what culture they studied and how it influenced their artistic choices.