

Unit 3: Drawing Foundations

6th Grade Art

8 Class Meetings

Created May 2026, Updated May 2026

• Essential Questions

- How does observation and perception affect drawing outcomes?
- What types of techniques can be used to create a realistic or expressive drawing?

Enduring Understandings with Unit Goals

EU 1: Observation, Experimentation, and practice are required to improve drawing skills.

- Analyze techniques used in a variety of drawings.
- Compare and contrast various drawing tools and their capabilities.
- Create drawings based on observations

EU 2: Drawings can be used to communicate ideas

- Explore various drawing methods.
- Analyze peer works of art based on drawing approach (ex. Contour drawings)
- Create works of art that demonstrate various drawing techniques (still life, portraits, etc.)
- Generate drawings that express creativity and
- Reflect on your work and experience creating drawings

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: Cr3.1.6a:** Reflect on whether personal artwork conveys the intended meaning and revise accordingly.

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 drawing style
- Analyze and interpret works of art.
- Evaluate works of art.
- Key vocabulary and terms: observational drawing, proportions, guide lines, contour lines, realism, composition.

2. Styles of Drawing

- Describe and illustrate multiple drawing styles: contours, still life, portraits, etc.
- Distinguish techniques and methods within works of art.
- Compare and contrast images using art vocabulary to interpret meaning.
- Key vocabulary and terms: perspective, observation, scale, contour, composition

3. Art Creation and critique

- Plan and create 2D still life drawings.
- Examine rubric criteria and student exemplars.
- Create a final image that conveys knowledge of observational drawing
- 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

Daily Learning Objectives with *Do Now Activities*

Students will be able to:

- Explore multiple styles of drawing
Warm-up: draw given object 3 ways
- Explore contour lines when creating a drawing
What is the importance of line in a drawing?
- Infer what it means to draw from observation.
Draw an object without looking at it. Then draw it a second time while looking.
- Assess proportion and scale within still life drawing
What is the importance of proportions when drawing from real life?
- Integrate space into a still life composition?
How can composition affect the outcome of a drawing?
- Engage in mapping all the facial features into a portrait.

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How can the proportions of facial features affect how realistic it is?

- Incorporate skills and techniques learned into a final 2D drawing.

How can you incorporate all the elements in one 2D project?

- Reflect on their growth in drawing skills through written response.

What drawing technique worked best for me? How did I improve?

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
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SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENTS:

- Unit 3 Quiz
- Unit Task – 2D Illustration

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Unit Task
Unit Task Name: Final 2D drawing Description: Students will demonstrate their understanding of observational drawing through a 2D still life. (EU 1,2) Evaluation: Summative Assessment and Reflection

Unit Resources
• Visual Images • Practice Worksheets • Pencils • Laptops • Basic Art Materials (Paper, Paint, Marker, etc.)