

Unit 2: Multi-Media Explorations

7th Grade Art

22 Class Meetings

Created May 2026

Essential Questions

- How can different materials be used to convey a variety of different messages?
- How do artistic skills improve through experimentation, practice, and revision?

Enduring Understandings with Unit Goals

EU 1: Materials and techniques are chosen to communicate ideas, emotions, and meaning.

- Discuss the characteristics and capabilities of a different medium
- Combine materials intentionally to communicate ideas
- Compare and contrast mediums for art making.

EU 2: Experimentation and taking risks are part of growing as an artist.

- Explore how mistakes in art can lead to better problem solving.
- Experiment with a variety of materials to create works of art.

EU 3: Each artist walks through the creative process when making art.

- Engage in the creative process with a variety of materials.
- Explore and practice new forms of art.
- Reflect on the creative process through written response and discussion.

Standards

Common Core State Standards:

- **VA: Cr3.1.7a:** Reflect on and explain important information about personal artwork in an artist statement or other format.
- **VA: Re8.1.7a:** Interpret art by analyzing art making approaches, the characteristics of form and structure relevant contextual information, subject, matter and use of media to identify ideas and mood.
- **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 using visual thinking strategies
- Evaluate works of art based on their medium.
- Key vocabulary and terms: Tone, Emotion, Expression, Interpret, Medium

2. Application of Skill

- Describe and practice different forms of art making.
- Distinguish uses for a variety of mediums.
- Compare and contrast images using art vocabulary to interpret meaning.
- Key vocabulary and terms: Mark-Making, Painting, Printmaking, Sculpture, Creative

Process.

3. Art Creation and Critique

- Plan and draft projects for each material introduced.
- Examine rubric criteria and student exemplars.
- Create a final work of art that expresses an idea, emotion, or meaning.
- 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...

- Explore the **creative process** through experimentation with a variety of materials **
Is there a reason an artist chooses a specific medium when beginning a project?
- Refine drawing skills through **mark-making** exercises.**
How can mark-making help an artist to express an emotion or idea more clearly?
- Compare and contrast types of **paint** and painting styles. ***
What are the pros and cons of each type of paint? (acrylic, tempera, watercolor)
- Implement elements and principles into **mixed media** work (Collage/Mixed Media)***
How can combining materials create new possibilities when making art?
- Investigate multiple forms of **print-making**.***
Why would an artist want to recreate the same piece multiple times?
- Construct **3-Dimensional artwork** using a variety of materials.****
How could a sculpture convey a meaning differently than a 2D artwork?
- Combine a variety of materials to create a **final project** that expresses a mood or idea.****
How can multiple principles of design be used in the same work of art effectively?
- **Critique** a peer's image using art analysis process.*
How did you experience the creative process through producing your final project?

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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:

- Vocab. Unit 1 Quiz
- Projects (Mark-making, Painting, Mixed Media, Printing, & Sculpture).
- Unit Task – 2D Principles of Design Artwork

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Unit Task

Unit Task Name: My Creative Process

Description: Students will create a final artwork that expresses an idea or emotion through intentional use of chosen medium. Students will include a written artist statement that reflects on their personal creative process. (EU 1,2,3)

Evaluation: Summative Assessment

Unit Resources

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