

Dear Dater Montessori families,

Welcome back to Art class for the 2026-2027 school year. I am grateful that you have returned to Dater Montessori and I am excited to teach and make art with my students! At this point I am not asking families to contribute Art supplies, but be aware that the previous CPS budget for Fine Arts that has been so generous for the last several years is likely to take a big hit. We have not yet received our budget and so have not been able to order supplies for next school year yet so you may receive word from me before the start of school asking for help. But as of now there are **3 things I need families to help provide: wet wipes** (ones that can be used for cleaning tables and are safe for cleaning hands); **facial tissue**; **8x10 copy paper** (for free drawing and art room printer).

All students K-6th grade will have jobs to do in the art room. Job responsibilities will change each quarter so that every student gets to experience different jobs. These jobs ranging from supply maintenance and distribution to clean up jobs are a very important part of Art class. All students are expected to learn and follow these procedures correctly. Students in the 6-9 year and 9-12 year communities earn points (Daily Art Task- 10pts) for correctly following these procedures and it is a large portion of their grade each midterm and quarter.

For students who are transitioning from the 6-9 year community to a 9-12 year community my expectations for the quality of art gets a bit higher so my grading will be a bit more strict. Some art lessons will have a more specific rubric and students will assess (grade) their own work based on the rubric. For art lessons with a less specific rubric please see the general art rubric below for expectations:

Art Lesson Assignments	Grade A (5pts)	Grade B (4pts)	Grade C (3pts)	Grade D (2pts)
Following Directions (5pts)	All aspects of <u>lesson</u> are completed with <u>excellent attention to detail</u> .	All aspects of <u>lesson</u> are completed.	Some aspects of lesson are completed well but some important aspects are missing	Many aspects of lesson are missing
Creativity (5pts)	The art is very original with your own ideas that look like no one else's. The art shows <u>a lot</u> of thought was put into it and shows <u>a lot</u> of details	The art shows that you are using your imagination and not just copying what you have seen. Art shows some detail.	Art may be well made but not very original or needs more imagination and details	Lacks imagination. Just wanted to get the assignment over with
Art Skill (5pts)	Drawing/painting skills are excellent; better than average. Can draw in a realistic way	Drawing (or painting, etc.) skills are as good as your average grade level peers but shows you are trying to draw at the highest level	Drawing skills are below or near average of your grade level peers but <u>shows</u> effort and you haven't given up.	Current work shows low skills and/or very low effort. You may have given up trying to do better
Craftmanship (5pts)	Art work is <u>perfectly</u> neat and clean. No tears or erasure marks; no excess glue showing. Work is done <u>very carefully</u>	Work is <u>somewhat</u> neat and clean. May see some erasure marks where lines were redrawn	Work may look like it was done too quickly; could have been more careful in cutting or gluing; work may be torn or tried to tape back together	Work is messy or sloppy. Looks like you didn't care

(more on back)

Lastly, I would greatly appreciate any volunteer help from those of you who might have the time to spare. I have over 650 students give or take and MUCH materials to organize, prep, clean and have no paraprofessional assistance at all. You could volunteer during class time, help students with art making, assistance or prep or outside of class time helping organizing materials or cleaning – any way you would like to contribute! If you are interested in making any kind of donation to the Art room I have an Amazon wish list of materials and activities that directly benefit the students.

The Amazon wish list is:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1UD6KXO6CF0FL/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_2



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Thank you Sincerely,

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