



Finding Your Inner Artist

Art

What is Art?

Art is anything you create using your imagination and skills. Art is used to express ideas, feelings or emotions. There is no one way to create art – it's a series of experiments using a variety of tools and methods.

Art can be a painting, drawing, mosaic, mask, weaving, pottery, sculpture, jewelry, photography, video or a graphic design using computer imagery.

Finding your inner artist takes practice. Some artists excel at one type of art while others use different types known as "mixed media" art. Artists use six building blocks, called Elements of Art, to create masterpieces. The six Elements of Art are line, shape, form, space, color and texture.



What is ART to you?

Give your definition of art below and use this definition throughout this activity guide to help guide your work.

Find Your Inner Artist— Superhero Selfie Portrait



Using your definition of art above, create a self-portrait with a cartoon. Think about your favorite super heroes. Why do you like them? What are their super powers? Why do you relate to them? How do they represent you? What would you want as your super power? How would you use it?

Develop a list of five to 10 super powers that you would want to have and how to use them. Use this list when creating your superhero self-portrait.

Materials needed: Drawing paper, pencils, thin permanent marker, colored pencil.

Using a sheet of paper, plan your superhero costume by writing down your ideas. Be sure to think about the form and function of the costume. Does the suit need to fly? Stretch? Blend into surroundings? Be a specific color?

Using a different sheet of drawing paper, create a comic book cover featuring your superhero self. Add texture, shape, space, color and value to your portrait by using the thin permanent marker and colored pencils. Use this self-portrait as motivation that you are an ART superhero!



Level:
Two

Life skills:
Decision making
Managing feelings
Self-esteem
Self-motivation
Stress management

Goal:
Participants will explore their own potential to produce original creative products through self-expression using the art elements of color and line.

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Show Us What You Have Done!

Every time you see the camera icon, please take photos to include in your 4-H records. The photos will enhance your record keeping and show all that you have done and/or created. You can also upload and share your project photos on social media using **#la4hproject**.

Put Color in Your Art



Color is an element of art. When light waves hit objects, they are absorbed, giving the objects color. Color has three key qualities: hue, value and intensity.

HUE is the name of the color such as red, green, blue.

VALUE is how light or dark the color is.

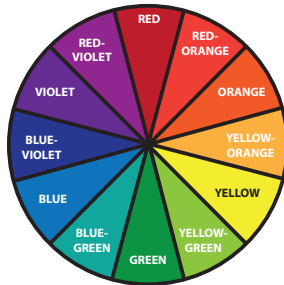
INTENSITY describes how vivid or dull the color appears.

A variety of colors are used in art. Every time you use color, you are creating a "color scheme." The most common color schemes are *primary*, *secondary* and *intermediate*.

Primary colors are yellow, blue and red.

Secondary colors are primary colors mixed together. They include green, orange and violet.

Intermediate colors are made by mixing a primary and a secondary color together. They are yellow-orange, red-orange, red-violet, blue-violet, blue-green and yellow-green.



Make a Color Wheel

Materials needed: Paint palette, mixing tray (or disposable plates to mix paint on) with enough room for 12 colors; red, yellow and blue paint; water in a cup or bowl for cleaning brushes; brushes (may need several to avoid unwanted mixtures of colors); measuring devices (medicine dropper, graduated cylinder, measuring spoons).

Step 1. Mix primary colors to get secondary colors.

Using your measuring device, follow steps 1-3. Be sure to use a clean measuring device after each step. Also, do not let the other paint mixtures touch each other.

1. Mix equal amounts of red and yellow to get orange on the paint palette. Use a paint brush to mix the colors thoroughly.
2. Mix equal amounts of yellow and blue to get green on the paint palette. Do not let the other paint mixtures touch.
3. Mix equal amounts of blue and red to get violet.

Step 2: Mix primary and secondary colors together to get intermediate (tertiary) colors.

Using your measuring device, follow steps 4-9. Be sure to use a clean measuring device after each step. Also, do not let the other paint mixtures touch each other.

4. Mix equal amounts of red and orange to get red-orange.
5. Mix equal amounts of yellow and orange to get yellow-orange.
6. Mix equal amounts of yellow and green to get yellow-green.
7. Mix equal amounts of blue and green to get blue-green.
8. Mix equal amounts of blue and violet to get blue-violet.
9. Mix equal amounts of red and violet to get red-violet.

Step 3: You now have 12 colors.

10. Draw a wheel with 12 equal parts. Paint the colors in the proper order on the color wheel like the diagram on the left. Need more paint? Mix equal amounts of the colors listed above to make more of the particular color.
11. Have your instructor evaluate your work.
12. Clean area; put away equipment and supplies and admire your work!

Practice Portraiture



Create a self-portrait using a mirror to guide you. Add realistic color to your eyes using colored pencils.

Step 1. Draw a Self-portrait

On the bottom half of your drawing paper, draw yourself from the bridge of your nose to the top of your head. This will emphasize your eyes.

Step 2. Reflect on and Pick Favorite Quotes

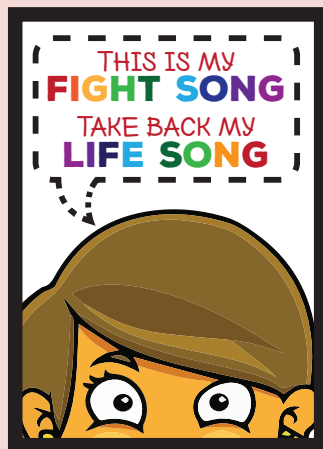
Think about quotes or sayings that have really meant something to you, whether from song lyrics, poems, people you admire or someone who gave you advice. These lyrics, poems and quotes are ones that have influenced your self-expression, individualism and confidence. Choose a favorite for your portrait.

Step 3. Add the Quote

On the upper portion of the paper, write down your favorite saying. Show it as either a quote or a thought bubble.

While drawing, reflect on what makes you great. What inspires you? What empowers you? Post the portrait in a prominent place.

*What empowers you?
Post the portrait in a prominent place.*



Empower Art

Using primary, secondary and intermediate colors, you can design an original "empowered" self-portrait.

Materials needed: 12- by 18-inch drawing paper; colored pencils.



What primary colors were used in your portrait?

What secondary colors were used in your portrait?

What intermediate colors were used in your portrait?

Contour Drawing

In a contour drawing, you draw the edges of an object in a continuous line, never picking up your pencil. Contour line drawings help you see details that you might have overlooked. Contour line drawings help us understand how something is organized and why.

Create contour drawings by following these steps:

1. Hold an object in front of you. You will draw the object exactly as you see it! Look at the edges of the object. Pay close attention to the edges. The edges look like lines. You will be drawing the outline (or the contour) of the object. Pay close attention to the outline of the object.
2. Hold the object close to your paper that you are drawing on so that you can see and draw it without moving your head. Do not trace the object.
3. Fasten your eyes on some point along the edge of the object. Put your marker on your paper. Imagine that the marker point is touching the edge of the object.
4. As you move your eyes along the edge of the object, move your marker across the paper, and carefully include every detail you see. Focus more on the object than on your drawing, and try not to pick up your marker.

What detail of your object did you discover that you had not noticed before?

Bobble head doll:
noun bob·ble-head doll \ˈbä-bəl-,hed-\ doll having a head that makes repeated bobbing movements

Line

Line is an element of art. Lines are marks that have greater length than width. Lines can vary in art. They can be horizontal, vertical or diagonal; straight or curved; thick or thin; straight or curvy.

Lines can create the texture in your artwork that captures the essence of an object and makes art come to life for your audience. Short lines can indicate texture better than continuous solid lines. You don't have to draw what you see in a picture, you can create texture with the type of line you choose.

Draw examples of different lines in the space below:



Contour Bobble Heads

Create a bobble head contour drawing, and work it into an imaginary background.



Materials needed: Drawing paper; fine point permanent markers; magazines; glue, colored pencils.

Step 1: Create Contour Drawings

To create the "head" of the bobble head, complete a contour drawing of your face with a fine point permanent marker on a piece of drawing paper. Sit in front of a mirror to create the contour face drawing. You can do several contour face drawings to have a variety to choose from.

Step 2: Make a Collage Body

Choose your favorite face drawing. Look through magazines to find a body for your head. To create the bobble head look, the body should seem too small for the head. Cut the body out of the magazine and glue it under the contour face drawing.

Step 3: Fill in the Background

Fill in the background of the bobble head drawing with information that tells people what is happening in the drawing. Use a variety of lines to create movement, interest and texture to the drawing. First, pencil in the details. Then, finish your piece with colored pencils.

Step 4: Tell the Story

Once you have completed your bobble head portrait, write a short story to go with your image. The story can be included in your 4-H records along with the bobble head portrait.

Art Career Highlight – Art Educator

Do you want to instruct, inspire and help students express themselves creatively? An art educator (teacher) may be the profession for you!

As an art teacher, you will guide your students through self-exploration, expressing emotions and creating something beautiful. You will also have the opportunity to instill in them a lifelong love of art in all its facets.

Art education includes a balance of theoretical and practical knowledge of art theory, color theory, design, art history and other art-related subjects.



Service Ideas

Get involved in your community by using your passion! Try either of these service project ideas:



- Provide “art therapy” to residents of a nursing home by teaching art classes for one hour per week for a month.
- Partner with a local foster care organization to create art for their facility or with foster children. **The opportunities are endless!**



Finding Respect Through Art

Art serves many purposes. It can provide entertainment. It also can serve as a way to deal with emotions in a healthy way. It can be a stress reliever. It can allow you to express your feelings in a peaceful way. Art also allows the opportunity for you to gain respect for others’ work and accept different points of views.



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