



## Art Instruction in the West Shore School District

Visual Art instruction in the West Shore School District is aligned to the PA Academic Standards and identified best practices. We utilize a variety of strategies and differentiate our instruction to meet the needs of all learners. The 21st Century Skills are thoughtfully woven into our lessons and units of instruction. This document is meant to offer an overview of important concepts in this course.

### Best Practices in 8th Grade Art:

Understand the art elements and principles of design as they relate to artwork, drawing from observation, art history, and real life connections through exploration of various artists and media.

- Know, understand, and apply the elements and principles of art to drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture and mixed media.
  - Create a portrait
  - Draw from observation
  - Produce an edition of prints
  - Work in three dimensions
- Safely work with tools, materials, equipment, and technological concepts and processes.
  - Use and maintain printmaking supplies
- Recognize and understand the historical and cultural context of various artists and art movements.
  - Focus on portrait artists.
- Students will be able to describe, interpret, analyze, and critically judge artwork.
  - Independent use of the critical process.
- Make informed responses based upon personal aesthetic choices relating to units of study.

### Skills and Concepts:

- Drawing from observation.
- Visually represent the concept of self.
- Show understanding of value and techniques.
- Demonstrate competence in color mixing and application through various media.
- Understand use of scale and proportion.
- Appropriate use and care of tools, materials, and equipment.
- Understand relationship between positive and negative space.
- How to sign and number prints.
- Understand the printmaking process.
- Make functional/decorative sculptures using one or more techniques.
- Utilize terminology associated with portraiture, printmaking, and free-standing sculpture.

### Standards:

[National Arts Standards](#)

[Pennsylvania Department of Academic Standards](#)

### Assessments:

WSSD utilizes a variety of assessments to monitor student growth and achievement. Our teachers engage in daily informal formative assessments to make timely decision about whether a student understands the material and concepts being presented. We also utilize several summative assessments to determine if a student has mastered grade level skills and standards.

*Some of the assessment utilized are:*

Rubrics  
Writing samples  
Observation  
Classwork  
Critiques  
Discussions  
Sketchbook/journaling

### Materials and Resources:

WSSD utilizes a variety of resources to meet all learners' needs.

### Parent Resources:

[Arts Edge](#)



## Art Instruction in the West Shore School District

	<p><a href="#">Susquehanna Art Museum</a> <a href="#">Art Association</a> <a href="#">Artcyclopedia</a></p>
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