

**Teaching Unit:** *The Elements and Principles of Art*  
**Essential Understandings**

Symmetry creates visual balance in a composition.

Visual balance is an art principle.

A composition can be balanced using unlike elements.

An abstract work may be judged using art principles.

Three-dimensional surfaces are created on a 2 dimensional surface by using patterns.

Texture creates visual interest in art.

By looking closely you will find many patterns both in nature and in human made environments.

**Teaching Unit:** *Purpose and Functions of Art*  
**Essential Understandings**

Art is the main way that we have learned about history.

Art is often used to introduce the study of different cultures.

Art has been used by all cultures to convey important information.

Artists and their art are involved in the majority of all human endeavors.

Artists are involved and often necessary in creating successful businesses for others.

**Sub Topic:** *Balance, pattern, emphasis, rhythm,*  
**Knowledge and Skills**

Students will learn what balance is and use it in their composition.

Students will learn that too much symmetry in art can be repetitious and boring.

Students will understand that texture is represented by patterning.

**Sub Topic:** *Advertising, literature, comparison*  
**Knowledge and Skills**

The students will look at the art of early civilizations and identify the important elements of those cultures.

The students will begin to see the relationships between the arts of various cultures.

The students will learn how to convey important information visually and symbolically through visual media.

The students will learn how to create a professional style advertisement.

Teaching Unit: ***Symbolism in Communication***

Essential Understandings

Many stories are conveyed visually through the use of pictures.

Symbols are the basis of written and spoken language.

Many different cultures use symbols to communicate.

Artists often incorporate personal symbols in their work.

Sub Topic: ***Literature, glyphs***

Knowledge and Skills

The student will be able to identify different activities performed by people in pictures.

The student can approximate the location and era of when a picture was created.

The student can create a story about a picture they observe.

The student can create a picture about a story they hear.

The students will communicate personal information by using visual symbols in a visual glyph.

Teaching Unit: ***The Arts in Culture***

Essential Understandings

Archeologists study fossils and ancient artifacts to learn about history.

We are making new and exciting discoveries every day about ancient civilizations and eras.

Cave art is the earliest visual communication that we have discovered so far.

Cave art was created by a thinking, observant and reasoning population.

Natural objects such as flowers and birds are depicted by artists all over the world.

There are many ways to interpret common objects.

Flowers and birds are popular items used as symbols to represent different meanings.

Artists have been employed for centuries to record natural history.

Sub Topic: ***Primitive Art***

Knowledge and Skills

Students will discover how ancient primitive art still influences artists today.

Students will learn that artists depict what is familiar to them and will do likewise.

The student will learn that tribal art is also known as Primitive or Naive art.

The student will learn that primitive artists have not had any formal art training.

The student will learn that most traditional tribal art reflects the cultural beliefs of the tribes.

Teaching Unit: *Artists and Their Styles*

Essential Understandings

Cave art was created by a thinking, observant and reasoning population.

Cave art records what was considered important to the artist or his/her commissioners.

Cave art is well-rendered and quite expressive.

Primitive cave art has been copied and reinterpreted by numerous artists throughout the centuries.

The human figure is a major subject in art.

People usually only bend in certain ways.

People are formed in certain proportions.

The human stance can depict emotions and action.

Artists can use very simple people shapes to convey a message.

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Sub Topic: *Primitive, modern artists*

Knowledge and Skills

Students will discover how traditional primitive art has heavily influenced modern artists.

The students will learn about Australian Aboriginal art and its influences.

The students will start to see the relationships between native tribal arts and the modern arts.

The students will create works in both the traditional and the modern styles.