

Visual Arts

Resource List for Grades K through 4

The Resources in this document can be used with the Visual Arts Curriculum Packet for grades K through 4.

Books

Picture Book Biographies

- Action Jackson, 2007 by Jan Greenberg (Author), Sandra Jordan (Author), Robert Andrew Parker (Illustrator).
One morning the American artist Jackson Pollock began work on the canvas that would ultimately come to be known as Number 1, 1950. The authors use this moment as the departure point for a unique picture book about a great painter and the way in which he worked.
- The Boy Who Drew Birds: A Story of John James Audubon, 2004 by Jacqueline Davies (Author), Melissa Sweet (Illustrator).
John James Audubon was a boy who loved the out-of-doors more than the in. He was a boy who believed in studying birds in nature, not just from books.
- Diego , 1994 by Jonah Winter (Author), Jeanette Winter (Illustrator).
This story of Diego Rivera, the greatest muralist of Mexico, and of the world, is told in Spanish and English.
- Dorothea Lange: The Photographer Who Found the Faces of the Depression, 2017 by Carole Boston Weatherford (Author), Sarah Green (Illustrator).
Traveling across the United States, documenting with her camera and her field book, the photographer found the face of the Great Depression.
- The Fantastic Jungles of Henri Rousseau, 2012 by Michelle Markel (Author), Amanda Hall (Illustrator).
Henri Rousseau wanted to be an artist. But he had no formal training. So, he taught himself to paint and became a master at his craft.
- Frida Kahlo: The Artist who Painted Herself, 2003 by Margaret Frith (Author), Tomie dePaola (Illustrator).
Through original artwork by the renowned artist this book explores the creative, imaginative world of Mexico's most celebrated female artist.
- The Iridescence of Birds: A Book About Henri Matisse, 2014 by Patricia MacLachlan (Author), Hadley Hooper (Illustrator).
This book looks at Henri Matisse's inspiration as a young boy.

- Keith Haring: The Boy Who Just Kept Drawing, 2017 by Kay Haring (Author), Robert Neubecker (Illustrator).
This book explores the life and art of Keith Haring from his childhood through his rise to fame. It sheds light on this important artist's great humanity, his concern for children, and his disregard for the establishment art world.
- My Hands Sing the Blues: Romare Bearden's Childhood Journey, 2011 by Jeanne Walker Harvey (Author), Elizabeth Zunon (Illustrator).
Bearden called his art visual jazz, and this picture-book biography stays true to his rich connections to blues rhythms.
- My Name Is Georgia: A Portrait by Jeanette Winter, 2003 by Jeanette Winter (Author).
From the time she was just a young girl, Georgia O'Keeffe viewed the world in her own way. As an adult, Georgia followed her love of art from New York City to the vast plains of New Mexico.
- The Noisy Paint Box: The Colors and Sounds of Kandinsky's Abstract Art, 2014 by Barb Rosenstock (Author), Mary GrandPre (Illustrator).
When young Vasily Kandinsky opened a paint box and began mixing the colors, he heard a strange sound, the colors were singing. And as he grew older, he continued to hear brilliant colors singing and see vibrant sounds dancing. Throughout his life, Kandinsky experienced colors as sounds, and sounds as colors.
- A Splash of Red, 2013 by Jen Bryant (Author), Melissa Sweet (Illustrator).
As a child in the late 1800s, Horace Pippin loved to draw. Even during W.W.I, Horace filled his notebooks with drawings from the trenches . . . until he was shot. Slowly, with lots of practice, he regained use of his arm, until once again, he was able to paint, and went on to become a famous artist.
- Uncle Andy's: A Faabbbulous Visit with Andy Warhol, 2005 by James Warhola (Author, Illustrator).
When the author was a little boy, his father had a junk business that turned their yard into a wonderful play zone that his mother didn't like. But when the family drove to New York City to visit Uncle Andy, they got to see how "junk" could become something truly amazing in an artist's hands.

Nonfiction

- 13 Art Techniques Children Should Know, 2013 by Angela Wenzel (Author).
This new book in the 13 Series introduces young readers to a variety of important art techniques, explained through some of the world's most recognizable masterpieces.
- 13 Paintings Children Should Know, 2009 by Angela Wenzel (Author).
Paintings are featured in the book in large reproductions with accompanying details. The readable text offers biographical information about each artist and important facts about

the painting's technical and historical aspects. Games, quizzes, and coloring exercises provide additional opportunities for young readers to interact with the artwork.

- Adventures in Asian Art: An Afternoon at the Museum, 2017 by Sue DiCicco (Author), Deborah Clearwaters (Contributor).
This delightfully illustrated book shares a series of fun facts about each of the exhibits and explains the culture, beliefs, and daily life informing these beautiful works of art.
- Art Lab for Kids, 2012 by Susan Schwake (Author), Rainer Schwake (Photographer).
This book is a great source of ideas for creating fine art with children, and encouraging the artist's own voice, marks, and style.
- Meet Me at the Art Museum: A Whimsical Look Behind the Scenes, 2012 by David Goldin (Author).
Told from the viewpoint of a discarded ticket, the author combines actual artworks, found pieces and digital art to introduce young readers to all that museums have to offer.
- Museum ABC, 2002 by The (NY) Metropolitan Museum of Art (Author).
Museum ABC is a unique and colorful picture book that introduces readers to more than a hundred works of art, using the alphabet.
- No One Saw, 2001 by Bob Raczka (Author).
With a simple, rhyming text and beautifully reproduced paintings, *No One Saw* explores modern art. Each painting highlights the way in which the artist looked at the world in his or her own unique way.
- The Usborne Complete Book of Art Ideas, 2011 by Fiona Watt (Author), Antonia Miller (Illustrator), Non Figg (Illustrator).
Discusses art techniques and presents instructions for more than one hundred art projects, with information on such topics as brushes, paper, media, wax resist, collage, and shading.

Fiction

- Beautiful Oops!, 2010 by Barney Saltzberg (Author). A life lesson that all parents want their children to learn: It's OK to make a mistake. A mistake is an adventure in creativity, a portal of discovery.
- The Dot Hardcover, 2003 by Peter H. Reynolds (Author, Illustrator).
Vashti doesn't think she can draw and to prove her point, she jabs at the paper and makes a dot. That one little dot marks the beginning of Vashti's journey of discovery of her creative spirit.
- The Great Wave: A Children's Book Inspired by Hokusai, 2011 by Veronique Massenet (Author), Bruno Pilorget (Illustrator).
Hokusai's classic woodcut of a majestic wave becomes the starting point for a story. On a stormy winter's day, a baby boy, Naoki, is swept into a fisherman's boat by a great wave. Years pass, but still Naoki does not grow. Must he return to the ocean in order to become

a young man? The answer arrives in the form of a mythic fish. The Great Wave introduces young readers to a beloved artist and his timeless portrayals of nature and transformation.

- Harold and the Purple Crayon, 1955 by Crockett Johnson (Author, Illustrator). One evening Harold decides to go for a walk in the moonlight. Armed only with an oversize purple crayon, young Harold draws himself a landscape full of wonder and excitement.
- Katie and the Starry Night , 2015 by James Mayhew (Author), Lee Wildish (Author) . (This is part of a series that explores famous works of art.) Join Katie as she steps into some of the most famous paintings in the world for an exciting art adventure!
- Little Blue and Little Yellow, 1959 by Leo Lionni (Author, Illustrator). Little Blue and Little Yellow are best friends, but one day they can't find each other. When they finally do, they give each other such a big hug that they turn green! How they find their true colors again concludes a wonderful story told with colorful pieces of torn paper and very few words.
- Mouse Paint, 1989 by Ellen Stoll Walsh (Author). One day three white mice discover three jars of paint--red, blue, and yellow. Their adventures illustrate color mixing and blending in a fun and charming story.
- When Pigasso Met Mootisse, 1998 by Nina Laden (Author). A picture book about art and friendship that introduces animal versions of two of the best-known painters in the world (Picasso and Matisse) and shows kids how friction between friends can sometimes result in masterpieces when you work together.

Magazines, Journals, Miscellaneous

- Artsonia Kids Online Art Museum: Empowers students to display, and explain, their own creations. (Download from your app store)
- Big Kids Magazine: BIG Kids Magazine is an Australian contemporary arts publication, launched in 2011, that features the work of children and artists side by side.
<http://bigkidsmagazine.com/about>
- Brush Painting Interactive: From the San Francisco Museum of Asian Art
<http://education.asianart.org/explore-resources/lesson-or-activity/interactive-digital-brushpainting>
- Living Paintings: Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum
This is a fun, easy, and visually pleasing way for kids to interact with works of fine art. It includes interactive games that are sometimes educational, other times just plain funny. (Download from your app store)
- Scholastic Art: The art magazine for kids
<https://art.scholastic.com/>

Online Links

- ABCya Digital Paint Studio: an online paint, drawing, and coloring activity site.
http://www.abcya.com/abcya_paint.htm
- Google Art Project :Browse 30,000 artworks by collections, artists, artworks, or user-submitted galleries. Explore galleries by clicking on the little person icon and navigate virtual spaces using the arrows and magnifier. Kids can make their own galleries when logged in to Google by clicking a button within each image and curating collections.
<http://www.google.com/culturalinstitute/project/art-project>
- The Metropolitan museum of Art, #metkids: Made for, with, and by kids, this site offers exploration and artistic fun.
<https://www.metmuseum.org/art/online-features/metkids/>
- National Gallery of Art Kidzone: NGAkids interactives offer an entertaining and informative introduction to art and art history. Featuring a variety of art-making tools that encourage exploration and creativity, these computer-based activities are suitable for all ages.
<https://www.nga.gov/education/kids.html>

Background information for the Educator

- ArtsEdge: Impressive cross-curricular resource helps put the A in STEAM from the Kennedy Center.
<http://artsedge.kennedy-center.org/educators.aspx>
- Dribble Drabble: Process Art Experiences for Young Children, 2016 by Deya Brashears Hill (Author).
The 145 process-oriented art activities cover a wide range of media including painting, crayons, collage and sculpture, chalk, and printing. Activities are easy to prepare, to set-up, and to develop into project-approach explorations.
- How to Teach Art to Children, Grades 1-6, 2001 by Joy Evans (Author), Tanya Skelton (Author).
This book includes 96 different art projects that are appropriate for elementary-aged children. As an added benefit, each project includes examples of fine art in the world that demonstrates the art elements highlighted in the project
- KinderArt: Lesson plans and ideas.
<https://kinderart.com/>
- Yes, You Can Teach Art to Kids: (Online article)
<https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/blog-posts/nancy-jang/yes-you-can-teach-art-to-kids/>