



VISUAL ART

3

FOR FAMILIES

THIRD GRADE

What to expect:

Children in third grade are making art in a variety of ways (painting, drawing, collaging, etc.) using different materials and supplies (scissors, watercolor resist, etc.). The art they are creating may be of places and things from the world around them, and they are able to understand how to share their work with others as part of an exhibit or digitally on school websites or social media. Third-graders are able to tell how works of art from different times, places and cultures are alike and different.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Gain knowledge of available resources, tools and technologies to investigate an idea through the art-making process. (For example, a student might investigate the process of printmaking by printing from a flat surface like glass or silkscreen.)
- Understand and practice how to make art safely.
- Add to or change art they have made after thinking or talking about their original creation. (For example, during printmaking lessons, after printing their work for the first time, students may see areas to change. Understanding how the ink picks up certain details may cause them to alter their design before printing again.)
- On their own or with a group, create works of art or maps of places that are part of their everyday life (for example, a map of their neighborhood that includes their drawings).
- Explore ways people have created artwork using whatever materials are available, such as found art objects like leaves, seashells, broken electronics, discarded glass, plastic bottles, driftwood, etc.

What to do at home:

- Display your child's artwork at home and take pictures of it to share with family.
- Look for art in the world around your child, such as murals, statues, billboards, etc.
- Make art together at home. Ask your child to design cards for special occasions like birthdays and holidays, then share them with friends and family.
- Draw a map of where you live (bedroom, apartment, house, etc.), school or neighborhood. After it is finished, look at blueprints online or street maps and talk about how you could make changes to improve the first draft of your map.

You are your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support visual art learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic success!



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Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and are motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity helps students be successful in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to develop curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore their world.

Support your child's artistic curiosity with questions like these:

- When you look at this picture, what do you like about it? What do you not like about it?
- How would you make a picture like this?

If your child seems to be interested in drawing and creating, encourage them by providing supplies (paper, crayons, pencils, etc.) and draw with them. You can also use cardboard from shipping or cereal boxes to create sculptures and other things kids are interested in, like spaceships, animals, robots, etc. Find videos of how to make art online (such as Lunch Doodles with Mo Willems or Bob Ross videos) to watch together.

Fostering Communication

Build your child's vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions to make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one point of view about a given subject. Accepting different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others, encouraging positive relationships with other children and a strong self-image.

Support your child's art communication skills with questions like these:

- What kinds of things do you notice the artist used in this picture? Do you see particular shapes, lines, colors or other things that went into making it?
- Which element is the most obvious? Why do you think the artist chose to highlight that element, and what could that mean?

Fostering Connections

Making connections between different school subjects helps build your child's overall knowledge and learning. It's also important for your child to make connections between what they are learning at school and in the real world. Point out these connections to your child and encourage them to make them, too.

- Connect art with reading and writing. Ask your child to create three drawings and then think of a story that links them together. Add to the story with more drawings, then write the story on the drawing pages. Create a finished book by stapling or fastening the pages together and adding a cover.
- Connect art with history. Look at old family photos and talk about why they look the way they do. Search online for old photos of presidents or other famous Americans to examine the history of the nation through the history of photography.

Join the conversation!

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