

6th Grade American Online School

ART CURRICULUM

Exploration, Expression, and Visual Literacy

Version May/2025

1. Introduction

The Role of Art Education in 6th Grade

In 6th grade, students deepen their ability to communicate visually and creatively. They explore personal expression through diverse media—drawing, painting, sculpture, digital tools—and study key artists and art forms from around the world. Through guided experimentation and reflection, learners gain confidence in the artistic process and develop skills in design, composition, and critique.

By the end of this course, students will:

- ✓ Use visual elements and principles of design in original works of art.
- ✓ Create both 2D and 3D art using various materials and media.
- ✓ Understand and apply color theory in expressive and structured compositions.
- ✓ Reflect on their own work and analyze peer and historical artworks.
- ✓ Explore global artistic voices and culturally significant themes.

2. Core Competence Areas

ART.1 Artistic Foundations and Freeform Creation

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- ✓ Explore creativity through open-ended art challenges.
- ✓ Use line, shape, texture, and composition freely and confidently.
- ✓ Build foundational skills in drawing and design.

Competencies

ART.1.A.1 – Practicing intuitive and spontaneous artmaking.

- Use sketchbooks for idea exploration and free drawing.
- Create “Freeform Fridays” projects with open media choice.

ART.1.A.2 – Reflecting on personal meaning in abstract forms.

- Discuss emotional responses to color, shape, and pattern.
- Present artist statements explaining mood or inspiration.

ART.2 Color Theory and Digital Media

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Apply primary, secondary, and tertiary color concepts.
- ✓ Understand warm/cool, analogous, and complementary relationships.
- ✓ Create artwork using digital design tools.

Competencies

ART.2.A.1 – Understanding and mixing colors purposefully.

- Use color wheels, value scales, and paint blending exercises.
- Apply color theory to painting, collage, and print media.

ART.2.A.2 – Designing digital art using technology.

- Create posters, character designs, or patterns with apps like Canva or Pixlr.
 - Explore digital symmetry, layering, and effects.
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ART.3 Pattern and Structure: Zentangles and Abstract Forms

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Create balanced, detailed patterns using line variation.
- ✓ Explore relaxation and mindfulness through repetitive design.
- ✓ Understand how abstraction simplifies or exaggerates reality.

Competencies

ART.3.A.1 – Drawing intricate pattern compositions.

- Design Zentangles using pens, shapes, and guided rhythm.
- Combine textures to form calming or energetic effects.

ART.3.A.2 – Understanding abstract art principles.

- Create abstract paintings using layered shapes and expressive color.
 - Analyze abstract work by artists like Kandinsky and Rothko.
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ART.4 Sculpture and 3D Art: Relief and Structure

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ Build low-relief and 3D forms using mixed media.
- ✓ Apply visual-spatial reasoning and planning.
- ✓ Explore recycled, organic, and structural sculpture techniques.

Competencies

ART.4.A.1 – Creating layered and textured relief pieces.

- Use cardboard, paper, and plaster to create depth and height.
- Carve or assemble tiles with patterns, faces, or abstract forms.

ART.4.A.2 – Constructing freestanding or mobile sculptures.

- Design sculptures inspired by nature, architecture, or fantasy.
- Experiment with balance, form, and stability.

ART.5 Art History and Cultural Study: Yayoi Kusama & Global Inspiration

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- ✓ **Explore the life and art of Yayoi Kusama.**
- ✓ **Understand how patterns, repetition, and symbols convey themes.**
- ✓ **Connect personal identity with artistic traditions.**

Competencies

ART.5.A.1 – Interpreting modern art and artistic intention.

- Analyze Kusama’s use of polka dots, color, and installation art.
- Create “Kusama Flowers” using mixed materials and personal symbols.

ART.5.A.2 – Drawing from global traditions for artistic exploration.

- Study folk art patterns, symbols, and motifs.
 - Incorporate cultural symbols into original works with sensitivity and reflection.
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3. Assessment and Evaluation

Formative Assessments – Daily Process and Practice

- ✓ Sketchbook entries and technique trials.
- ✓ Color theory practice sheets.
- ✓ Peer feedback and discussion prompts.

Summative Assessments – Project-Based Learning

- ✓ Graded rubrics for major artworks.
- ✓ Digital art portfolios with artist statements.
- ✓ Vocabulary and visual analysis quizzes.

Authentic Assessment – Exhibition and Expression

- ✓ End-of-year student-led art show.
 - ✓ “My Artistic Voice” slide show or video.
 - ✓ Artwork reflections with creative process documentation.
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4. Instructional Strategies for Online Learning

Studio-Based and Process-Oriented Approach

- ✓ Focus on process over product.
- ✓ Allow students to explore, revise, and take creative risks.

Integrated Use of Technology and Media

- ✓ Digital drawing and photography apps (Canva, Pixlr, Tayasui Sketches).
- ✓ Use of visualizers and projection for live demo analysis.

Inclusive and Personal Expression Focus

- ✓ Connect projects to student identity and choice.
- ✓ Offer multiple modes for engagement (hands-on, digital, verbal).

Learning Culture

- ✓ Celebrate effort, originality, and creative thinking.