

A Guide to the Colorado Academic Standards



Working Together

To support families and teachers in realizing the goals of the Colorado Academic Standards, this guide provides an overview of the learning expectations for Kindergarten Visual Arts. This guide offers some learning experiences students may engage in during this school year, experiences that may also be supported at home.

Why Standards?

Created by Coloradans for Colorado students, the Colorado Academic Standards provide a grade-by-grade road map to help ensure students are successful in college, careers, and life. The standards aim to improve what students learn and how they learn in ten content areas – emphasizing critical-thinking, creativity, problem solving, collaboration, and communication as important life skills in the 21st century.

Visual Arts Education for Elementary Schools (k-5)

The visual arts standards in the elementary years focus on General Art knowledge and skills to help create a foundation for artistic study in later years (drawing, painting, sculpture, graphic design, media arts). In each grade k-5, students explore techniques of various artistic styles, follow simple steps in the creation process, learn how to critique works of art, identify art in the world and daily life, and discover ways that artwork helps people better understand cultures and historical eras.

Where can I learn more?

- Contact your school district regarding local decisions related to standards, curriculum, resources, and instruction.
- Colorado Academic Standards Booklets: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/GradeLevelBooks.asp>
- Karol Gates, Colorado Arts Content Specialist at 720-202-9268, Gates_k@cde.state.co.us



COLORADO
Department of Education

Colorado
PTA
everychild. onevoice.

At the end of
Kindergarten,
students can...

The Colorado Academic Standards in Visual Arts are organized by elements of the Creative Process:
Know/Comprehend → Critique/Evaluate/Refine → Create/Present → Connect/Apply/Transfer

Visual Arts Learning Expectations for Kindergarten

Observe and Learn to Comprehend (Know/Comprehend)
Understand that works of art can represent people, places, and things.

Envision and Critique to Reflect (Critique/Evaluate/Refine)
Identify and discuss connections between stories and artwork (book illustrations, character and/or settings created by an art image).

Invent and Discover to Create (Create/Present)
Use a range of materials (paint on canvas, chalk on paper, torn paper glued to a form) to create drawings, pictures or other objects.

Relate and Connect to Transfer (Connect/Apply/Transfer)
Identify art in daily life; understand that artists have an important role in communities.

Throughout Kindergarten, you may find students successfully applying the elements of the creative process by...

- Identifying feelings and emotions connected with pictures (in books); listing the possible feelings an artist might be trying to create (in an illustration in a book).
- Identifying the most important character/person in an image; identifying the setting shown in an image.
- Answering questions about stories in art work images; pointing at pictures (during a read aloud) that represent the beginning, middle and end of a story.
- Making a variety of artworks using different media (materials), including paint on canvas, chalk on paper, and torn paper glued to a form.
- Identifying art in their life (hallway pictures, public sculptures)

