

5 Art Appreciation-visual Arts

Understanding the beauty in Art.



OBJECTIVES :

1. Explain the importance of arts in human life in their own words. Explain and identify the types of visual art forms and the five basic elements in different visual art forms.
2. Identify art forms used in daily life, name some world famous artists.
3. Justify the statement 'Same emotion / scenario can be expressed differently by different people'.
4. Choose from amongst different mediums and create an art piece for self expression.
5. Describe the use of five elements of art in an art piece and to explain what they find appealing in an art piece in their own words.

1. Fun time

Select a patriotic song. Play the full song in class.
Students should relax and enjoy the song.

2. Let us think about this



Did you ever feel like making sand castles or making designs on the sand when on the sea shore ?

YES NO



Did you ever find yourself making sketches / cartoons / designs with a pen when you were thinking ?

YES NO

Discuss about this -

Did you feel like dancing or tapping your foot to the tune of the song ? Did you feel your body move with the music ? Did you feel energetic when listening to the song ? Why do you think this happens ?

Read out each question in the class and ask students to raise their hands for yes/no answers. Ask them if they had decided to do the actions or they happened without their notice spontaneously.



Did you ever find yourself humming a song or dancing when you were happy ?

YES NO



Did you ever feel like mimicking somebody while talking about him/her ?

YES NO



Did you ever find yourself enjoy telling or listening to an interesting story ?

YES NO

POINTS TO PONDER

There is a natural drive within all of us to express ourselves. Self-expression is as vital as breathing to live. It is how we interact with others and the world.

Sometimes, to express ourselves completely, we turn to art. Art is a natural part of us. Art in some form or another has existed since the time man existed. It is a part of our daily lives and is present in cultures across the world. Most people have an appreciation for art. They either enjoy creating it, observing it or even supporting it financially or by volunteering.

3. What is art ?

A simple definition of art by the renowned artist Shri. Devi Prasad is - “Every act done with a sense of beauty, grace and human relevance is art”. This means that whatever you do, if you do it beautifully, gracefully and if human beings can relate to it, you create art. In a way, there is an artist in all of us whether or not we are aware of it. We simply need to develop that artist in us.

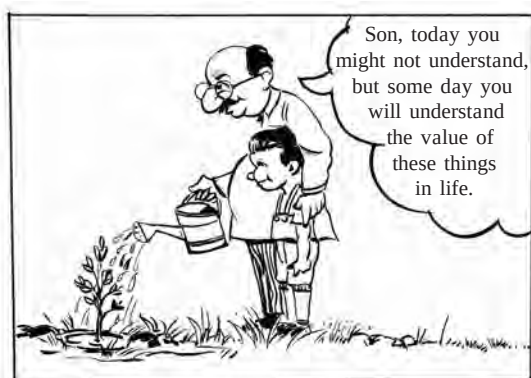
4. Finding art in day to day life

Our life will be very dull and boring if there is no art in it. Art brings beauty, joy and colour to life. We are surrounded by art in our lives all the time. Few examples of art in daily life are - rangoli, movies, matching clothes, food dishes, embroidery, hairstyles etc.

Cartoons is one such art form that we see every day. A cartoon which is made by using minimum lines and is creative and humorous is considered to be a good cartoon.

Divide the class into groups. Encourage them to think about other things in their daily life which depict art. They should then draw cartoons/paint or write them on a chart paper and one member should present it in front of the class.

Display the charts in the classroom



5. Appreciating the different Art forms

The mediums of creating art like music, dance, drama, poetry, painting, embroidery etc. are called 'art forms'. The mastery of 64 traditional forms of art known as 'Chousath Kala' formed an important basis in the development of a cultured individual in many parts of ancient India. However, we will study the broad classification of art in the following two forms.

A. Visual Arts :

The visual arts are art forms such as drawing, painting, sculpture, print making, embroidery, crafts, photography, video / film making, literature, and architecture.



B. Performing Arts :

The performing arts are those forms of art in which individual people perform separately or together. The artist's own body, face, and presence is needed for the performance. Performing arts may include dance, music, opera, theatre, musical theatre, magic, illusion, mime, spoken word, puppetry, circus arts, recitation and public speaking. In this chapter we will learn about visual arts and its basic elements.

6. Finding Art in Nature

Form groups of students. Each group should take time to look at the trees and plants around the school and their homes. Each group should then collect leaves, flowers and fruits having different colours and shades and try to make a beautiful colour wheel. Let the students take time to appreciate each others' work.

Colour Wheel



Discuss :

How many different shades were collected? Is there a relation between colour of the leaves and season ? Do all the leaves have a different smell? What are the different textures and designs on the leaves?

Colour combination : The main reason why we can see so many different colours in nature is light. It is important to know about colour combinations in order to create an appealing visual art.

Primary colours : Red, Yellow, Blue are called primary colours. They cannot be created by combining any other colours.

Secondary colours : These can be created by combining two secondary colours.

Tertiary colours : These are obtained by combining one primary colour and one secondary colour.



If we use all the colours in a painting it might not look appealing. It might look very chaotic. For e.g. there are many 'ragas' in music. Each raga permits the use of a set of musical notes and defines the rules for their use. This selection of musical notes and the rules concerning them are chosen so that the raga sounds pleasing to the ears. Similarly a painting would look appealing when the chosen colours gel with each other. Two secondary colours created out of a primary colour go well with that colour. e.g. orange and green are both obtained from yellow, thus they go well with yellow. Similarly purple and orange are obtained from red where as green and purple are obtained from blue. This should be kept in mind while creating appealing visual art.

Creating Natural Colours :



Colours could be made out of many natural ingredients around us. For e.g. red colour could be obtained from beetroot, green from spinach and yellow from turmeric. Try to make as many colours as possible from natural ingredients around you.

Finding shapes and figures in stones :



Ask the students to collect different stones from outdoors. Encourage students to think creatively about finding a resemblance in the shape of the stones and different objects or shapes around them. Using watercolours or any other natural colour, students should paint the stones as per the shape they feel resembles the stones.

POINTS TO PONDER

Since ages, human beings have been influenced and inspired by the colours, patterns, sounds and changing seasons in nature. The more we connect with nature, the more we start observing and admiring the beauty in nature and we start developing an eye for beauty. This in turn gets reflected in the art that we create. Thus to create beautiful art, one must first observe and learn from nature.

7. Lets be Creative

Hand art



Encourage the students to think about the various ways in which they can use the prints of their own hands and fingers creatively. Let the students take time to appreciate each others' work.

Sculpture



Encourage students to use a soap bar/chalk piece/crayons etc. and use the divider/compass/scissors to carve out patterns or shapes in them. Making different things, toys, fruits, utensils from clay is also called sculpture.

Carving designs :

Just as you carved different designs on chalks, crayons or soap bars, beautifully carved designs can be seen on different religious structures in India. Try to find and observe one such structure in your area.



Sun Temple, Konark



Jain Temple



Taj mahal, Agra



Golden Temple, Amritsar



Basilica of Bom Jesus, Goa

8. Visual Arts



2-dimensional medium

Painting with oil / acrylic charcoal / pastel / pencil/ watercolour. Developing photograph / poster, lithograph, silk-screen, cartoon / comic, Mehendi, rangoli, glass painting



Electronic art

Making computer art, video, web art, photograph / poster. Making computer cartoon / comic / animation.



3-dimensional medium

Sculpting, wood carving, etching, stained glass mosaic, stage setting, tapestry, embroidery, weaving.

Make groups of students. Each group should choose from one of the three types of visual arts given below. Research on it and make a group presentation.

9. Five elements of visual art

All visual art, whether two-dimensional like a painting or three-dimensional like a sculpting are made of one or more of five elements of art. These elements are the basic building blocks of any art. The final art piece would depend upon how these elements have been used by the artist.



1. LINE : Lines, can be used for a wide range of purposes : stressing on a word or phrase, connecting content, creating patterns and more. Lines can be used to create the effect of depth or distance. e.g. lines which start from the same point meeting the horizon, rails of a railway etc.



2. SHAPE : The three basic types of shape are geometric (circles, squares, triangles etc.), natural (leaves, trees, people etc.) and abstract (icons, stylization and graphic representations). These are used creatively to make visually pleasing and eye-catching designs.



3. COLOUR : Colour is used to generate emotions, define importance, create visual interest. It is referred to as 'hue'. It is also used to highlight an area in an art work.



4. LIGHT AND SHADOW : Depending on the amount of light falling on an object, the shadow of the object or the shadow falling on the object changes. Through the play of light and shadow, the form of an object is emphasized. Giving a thought to the light and shadow becomes extremely important in realistic art work.



5. TEXTURE : Texture refers to how an object feels when we touch it. Objects could be smooth, rough, sharp, blunt etc. If these textures could be captured as they are, the artwork may seem more realistic and appealing to the observer.

Still life : An artwork mostly depicting different arrangements of non-living objects is called still life. Observe how the five elements of visual art have been used in different still life artworks.



Memory drawing :

An artwork depicting incidences or visuals based on one's experience or memory is called memory drawing. Observe how the five elements of visual art have been used in different still life artworks.

Ask the students to draw one still life and one memory drawing.

10. Let us learn...

Calligraphy

Both the Devnagari and Roman scripts contain alphabets made of circular shapes, triangles, squares, straight lines etc. Following pens and brushes can be used to create calligraphic content :

1. Brush
2. Cut nibs
3. Boru
4. Sketch pen
5. Cut Sketch pen
6. Markers
7. Flat brush etc.



The change in the style of the letters when written with all of the above equipments can be seen below.

बालभारती बालभारती बालभारती बालभारती

(1) Brush

(2) Cut nibs

(3) Boru

(4) Sketch pen

बालभारती बालभारती बालभारती

(5) Cut Sketch pen

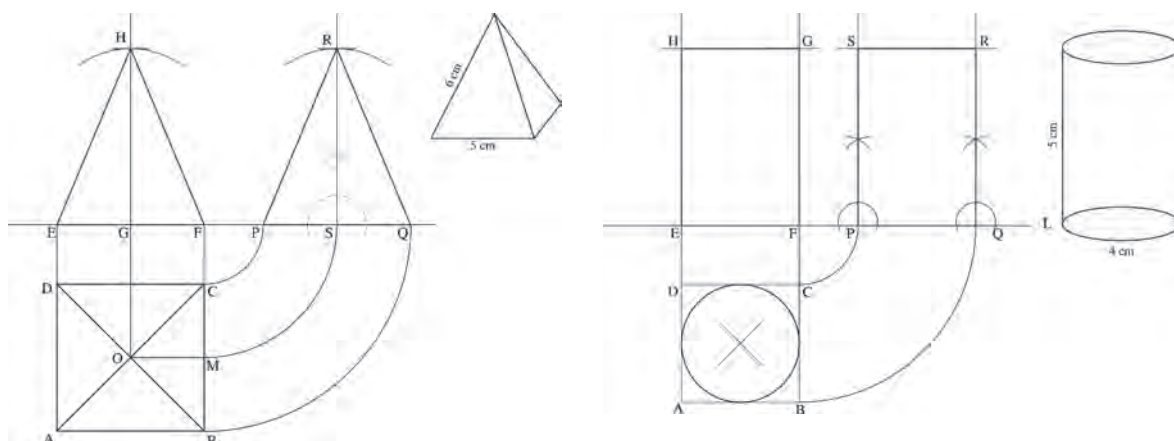
(6) Markers

(7) Flat brush

Practice writing alphabets with different pens and brushes.

11. Plane practical geometry

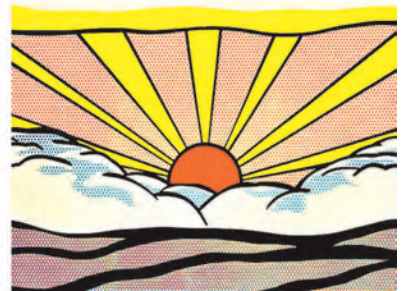
Geometrical constructions are not only useful in learning mathematics, but also in creating different designs and proportionate shapes. They are useful in capturing the details in measurement while sketching.



Refer to the mathematics textbooks and discuss how different geometric constructions are created. Also discuss where these geometric constructions could be seen around us. For more information, use the QR Code given on the front page.

12. Expressing the same thing differently

Ask the students to observe the pictures given below. They are all a depiction of a sunrise by different artists in different styles. Give the students a word or theme and encourage them to draw or paint a picture as per their imagination and style. Give time for the students to move around and observe each others work without criticizing or rating any work as best or not good.



13. Appreciating visual art

Let us take an example. Any food dish has some ingredients which have to be mixed and cooked. The final taste of the same dish would differ when your mother / sister / chef in the hotel makes it. The reason is that each one uses the same ingredients in different styles so the taste, look and smell of the food dish may differ.

Similarly, in visual art, the artist mixes the various elements of art as per his or her own creativity and imagination to create art.

Understanding this is **appreciating art**.



14. Some world famous artists...

While there have been several great artists in the world, here is a brief introduction to a few of the celebrated ones.

Raja Ravi Varma (1848 – 1906) :

Raja Ravi Varma is a celebrated Indian artist born in what is now a part of Kerala. Ravi Varma was famous for his depictions of Hindu deities and episodes from the epics and Puranas. His work is considered to be a great example of a fusion of European techniques and Indian sensibility.



Vincent van Gogh (1853 – 1890) :

Vincent van Gogh was a Dutch painter highly revered in the art world. His paintings include landscapes, portraits etc. which are characterized by bold colours and dramatic, loud and expressive brush strokes. The bold strokes can be clearly seen in this painting.

Pablo Picasso (1881 – 1973) :

Picasso was a Spanish painter and sculptor. He was a highly revered artist of the 20th century and had a most distinct style of painting called Cubism. In his paintings, the subjects and objects of his paintings are broken up into pieces and re-arranged in an abstract form as can be seen in this painting.



Georgia O'Keeffe (1887 – 1986) :

Georgia O'Keeffe was an American artist. She is one of the most significant artists of the twentieth century, known internationally for her boldly innovative art. Her distinct flowers, dramatic city scapes, glowing landscapes, and images of bones against the stark desert sky are iconic.

Jamini Roy (1887 – 1972) :

Jamini Roy was an Indian painter. He was honoured with the national award of Padma Bhushan in 1955. He was one of the most famous pupils of Rabanindranath Tagore, whose artistic originality and contribution to the emergence of modern art in India remains unquestionable.



Amrita Shergil (1913 – 1941) :

One of the most talented painters ever to have graced the Indian soil, she was an artist beyond compare. Though she lived for just 28 short years, she left an indelible mark on the history of contemporary Indian art. Her paintings were the perfect blend of western and Indian techniques which gave them an exotic appeal.

K.G. Subramaniam (1924 – 2016) :

K.G. Subramaniam was awarded the Padma Vibhushan in 2012. He was a multifaceted personality - an artist, teacher, storyteller, poet, cultural organizer, textile designer all rolled into one. He challenged traditions and dared to depart from orthodox ideas to create a unique style of his own.



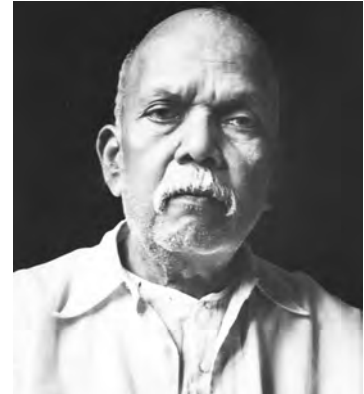
Abalaal Rehman :

Abalaal Rehman was a talented, visionary artist. He was born in Kolhapur (around 1856 to 1860). In 1888, he was awarded the Voiceroy's medal for his work. After seeing his work, Rajarshi Shahu Maharaj appointed him as an artist in the royal court. Abalaal Rehman had a mastery over using water colours. His creativity can be seen through his depiction of birds, animals, portraits, processions etc.

He made use of different techniques like finger painting, shading, pencil sketching to create art.

Sculptor - Raobahadur Ganpatrao Mhatre (1876-1947) :

Raobahadur Ganpatrao Mhatre was a famous sculptor who studied at the Sir J. J. School of Arts. His famous work - 'lady visiting a temple' was critically acclaimed. This sculpture, depicting a Maharashtrian lady is free from the influence of British art style. The pleats of her nine yard long saree are appropriately carved and highlight the form. Her hairstyle, her posture where she leans on one leg while the other leg is slightly bent is appropriately captured. Her hands, face and delicate feet have been sculpted in great detail.



Though he experimented with different media, his work in marble was one of the finest. His name features prominently in the history of Indian modern sculptures. He adapted the western realistic style into his own unique style for creating art.

Choose any one of the above mentioned artists and try to see as many of their artworks as possible. Try to note how they use the five elements of visual art.

15. Some Indian folk art forms

Folk art means art of the people. Ancient Indian folk painting and art styles have been passed down from generation to generation and are still practiced in different parts of the country.

Passed down from one generation to another, Indian folk art is still alive in many parts of the country. In olden days, they were made with natural dyes and colours made of soil, mud, leaves and charcoal on canvas or cloth – giving it a sense of antiquity, vintage nostalgia. Here's a look at some folk painting forms that are still practiced in select parts of the country:

MADHUBANI :

Also called Mithila art. It originated in the Mithila kingdom of Janak (Sita's father in Ramayana) present-day in Nepal and Bihar. It is one of the most popular Indian folk arts, practiced mostly by women who wanted to be one with God. Characterised by geometric patterns, this art form wasn't known to the outside world until the British discovered it after an earthquake in 1930s revealed broken houses with Madhubani paintings. Most of these paintings or wall murals depict gods, flora and fauna.



WARLI :

Originated by the Warli tribes from the Western Ghats of India, in 2500 BC, this is easily one of the oldest art forms of India. It is mainly the use of circles, triangles and squares to form numerous shapes and depict daily life activities like fishing, hunting, festivals, dance and more. What sets it apart is the human shape: a circle and two triangles. All the paintings are done on a red ochre or dark background, while the shapes are white in colour.

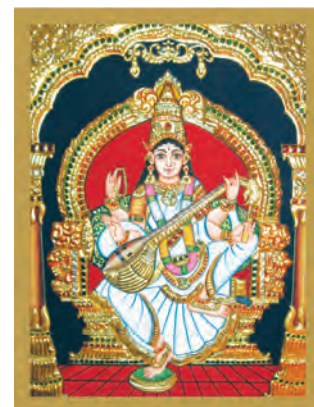


GOND :

Characterised by a sense of belonging with nature, the Gondi tribe in Madhya Pradesh created these bold, vibrantly coloured paintings, depicting mainly flora and fauna. The colours come from charcoal, cow dung, leaves and coloured soil. If you look closely, it is made up of dots and lines. Today, these styles are imitated, but with acrylic paints.

TANJORE :

From down South, Tanjore or Thanjavur paintings originated in 1600 AD, encouraged by the Nayakas of Thanjavur. You can recognise a Thanjavur painting by its use of gold foil, which glitters and lends the painting a surreal look. These panel paintings on wooden planks depict devotion to gods, goddesses and saints. It borrows its styles from Maratha and Deccani art, as well as European styles.



KALAMKARI :

Literally meaning ‘drawings with a pen’. Today, Kalamkari art is used on sarees and ethnic clothing, and depicts anything from flora and fauna to epics such as Mahabharata or Ramayana.

16. Some popular Indian embroidery forms.

Phulkari



Chikankari



Jardosi



Kashidakari



Rajasthani Patchwork



17. Interact with an Artist

- Find an artist in your locality. It could be a painter, potter or sculptor.
- Prepare a questionnaire and go and interview him / her about their journey as an artist.
- Submit a report and decorate it with a few pictures of the artist and his / her work.
- Understand that they have developed their own distinct style. Talk to them about the use of the elements of art in their work.



18. Importance of the Visual Arts in Life

As discussed in the beginning of this chapter, every human being needs to express himself/herself. Today's youth need a safe space and opportunity to express themselves freely. Art can be a medium to express one's feelings, thoughts, opinions, experiences and also communicate ideas. Understanding historical references and making sense of the happenings in day to day life can also be facilitated by Art. Given below are a few reasons why Art is an important part of life.

Art provides a chance to develop cognitive skills, creative skills, and an aesthetic sense.

Brain research confirms that Art strengthens problem-solving and critical thinking skills, adding to overall academic achievement, school success, and preparation for the world of work.

The more we connect to different people through Art, the more we understand their culture, history, beliefs, practices. Due to this, our respect, affection and tolerance for others increases thus promoting peace and harmony.



ASSESSMENT RUBRICS

Weightage : 10%				
Criteria	Very Good	Satisfactory	Not - Satisfactory	Marks obtained
Participation in activities	Actively completed all the tasks. Completed all the activities in the chapter.	Completed all the activities in the chapter.	Copied answers from others.	
Creativity in Artwork	Creativity is seen in the artwork done by the students.	Limited creativity is seen.	No creativity is seen. Copied from others.	
An interview with Artist	Discussed all the concepts in the chapter in the interview with the artist and got back pictures or letter as evidence.	The interview did not cover the concepts in the book. No pictures or letter were obtained as evidence.	Did not take the interview.	

