

Core Knowledge® Foundation

CK Visual Arts: Grades 3–5 – List of Objectives



In our CK Visual Arts curricula, each grade has a Teacher Guide, a Student Activity Book, Online Resources, and a Slide Deck. There is one set of components per grade.

Grade 3

Unit 1: Elements of Art: Light and Space	Unit 2: Design and the Elements of Art	Unit 3: Art and Architecture: Roman and Byzantine Empires	Unit 4: Architecture of the Earliest People	Unit 5: Native American Art
• Identify the characteristics of value and explain its relationship to light • Observe and reflect on value, light, and shadow in painting, including the emotions they evoke • Investigate tools to create values and contrast in artwork • Observe the use of value in photography • Describe the characteristics of negative and positive space • Describe the illusion of depth in art, including identifying and drawing a foreground, middle ground, and background	• Review elements of art previously learned and explain how they work together • Explain how design evokes certain emotions and paint self-portraits using the elements of art to show emotion • Reflect on the use of design in collage • Create a quilt design using the elements of art	• Identify and discuss the use of three-dimensional forms in Roman architecture • Observe, design, and identify the characteristics of mosaics • Compare and contrast Roman and Byzantine architecture • Apply knowledge of the elements of art to discuss the influence of Roman architecture on later buildings	• Identify elements of art in a Neolithic longhouse and compare and contrast different types of ancient homes • Identify elements of art in ancient houses in the Americas and write stories about people living in ancient homes • Design and build shelters using “local” materials	• Describe the characteristics of Hopi and Zuni art and culture and reflect on the elements of art in Hopi and Zuni artwork • Describe the use of design in Navajo (Diné) art, then design a blanket • Describe the use of design in Native American jewelry and beadwork, then design beaded artwork

Grade 4

Unit 1: Art and Architecture: Middle Ages in Europe	Unit 2: Islamic Art and Architecture	Unit 3: The Art of Africa	Unit 4: The Art of China	Unit 5: Art and Architecture: Early United States
- Identify characteristics common to European medieval art, such as the stylized paintings of the Madonna and Child - Demonstrate an understanding of the purpose of illuminated manuscripts and their artistic significance - Explain the importance of medieval tapestries and the Christian narrative stories they tell - Identify the important artistic features of medieval Gothic architecture, including spires, pointed arches, flying buttresses, rose windows, gargoyles, and statues	- Explore the stylistic features of different types of Islamic artwork, such as the use of geometric patterns - Identify and define characteristic features of Islamic architecture, such as pointed arches, domes, and minarets; and - Identify and describe key architectural features of three important Islamic buildings: the Dome of the Rock (Mosque of Omar, Jerusalem), the Court of the Lions (the Alhambra Palace, Granada, Spain), and the Taj Mahal (Agra, India)	- Understand the wide-ranging artistic styles and functions of African art - Understand the spiritual purposes and significance of African art - Compare the purposes of African art with those of the religious and ceremonial art of medieval Europe, or with those of Islamic architecture studied earlier in the year - Analyze how leaders are portrayed in traditional African art - Analyze the form and function of traditional African masks and headdresses - Compare the artistic features of contemporary African artwork with those of traditional African art, examine African art's influence on other cultures, and explore the mediums of modern African art, such as collage	- Identify the artistic inventions of the Chinese people and the different types of artwork that Chinese artists excelled in creating - Identify the importance, purpose, and stylistic techniques of traditional Chinese calligraphy - Discuss how traditional Chinese artists depicted nature in landscape paintings - Analyze examples of Chinese porcelain by explaining their stylistic features and the artistic process of their creation	- John Singleton Copley, Paul Revere - Gilbert Stuart, George Washington - Emanuel Leutze, Washington Crossing the Delaware - Thomas Jefferson's Monticello

Grade 5

Unit 1: Art / Architecture: Renaissance	Unit 2: Art / Architecture: Baroque	Unit 3: 19th Century American Art	Unit 4: Contemporary Native American Art	Unit 5: Art of Japan	Unit 6: Russian Art / Architecture
- Summarize the artistic features and techniques used in various types of Renaissance artwork - Describe the stylistic and functional qualities of Renaissance sculpture - Describe how the precise observation of the natural world and everyday life was a characteristic of the Northern Renaissance genre and portrait paintings - Identify the key artistic features of architecture from the Renaissance period	- Identify the artistic features of paintings created during the Baroque period - Summarize the characteristics of Baroque church architecture	- Learn about the Hudson River School of landscape painting and other artists who depicted the American frontier - Explore the impact of printmaking on American life, especially the popularity of prints by Currier & Ives - Consider the immediacy enabled by photography from the Civil War, along with other art inspired by the conflict.	- Analyze the social messages communicated by contemporary Native American artists - Create an artwork that conveys a social message that is personally meaningful to them	- Summarize the artistic style, history, and philosophy of traditional Japanese art - Identify both the traditional cultural inspiration and the modern innovation used in contemporary Japanese art architecture	- Summarize the key elements of Russian art and architecture and compare them to the religious and artistic traditions of the Renaissance and medieval Europe - Identify the key stylistic features of Russian architecture