

Visual Art Curriculum

Grade 8

Curriculum Overview

"Throughout time, the arts have served as a distinctive vehicle for self-discovery and a means of understanding the world in which we live. As the state of New Jersey continues to transform public education to meet the needs of a changing world and the 21st century workforce, capitalizing on the unique ability of the arts to develop creativity, critical thinking, and innovation skills is critical to the success of our students. The arts infuse our lives with meaning on nearly all levels—generating significant creative and intellectual capital. They inspire creative and critical thinking and encourage acceptance of diversity. A well-designed sequential arts program promotes responsible decision making, enhances self-awareness, builds self-esteem and self-management skills, and helps students build relationship and collaboration skills; all of which are essential to prepare New Jersey students for postsecondary success."

Reference: New Jersey Department of Education. New Jersey Student Learning Standards, 2020.

Unit Title	Timeframe	New Jersey Student Learning Standards
Creating	September-November	1.5.8.Cr2b, 1.5.8.Cr2c, 1.5.8.Cr1a, 1.5.8.Cr1b, 1.5.8.Cr3a
Presenting	November-January	1.5.8.Pr6a, 1.5.8.Pr5a
Performing	January-March	1.5.8.Pr4a
Responding	March-May	1.5.8.Re9a
Connecting	May-June	1.5.8.Cn10a, 1.2.8.Pr5a, 1.2.8.Pr5b, 1.5.8.Cn11a, 1.5.8.Cn11b, 1.2.8.Pr5c