

# Sixth Grade Art

with Patti Rowland

*The Sixth Grade Art Program works to emphasize student engagement in art making. Students will gain skills and techniques used when creating art. Emphasis will be on gaining skills in creative thinking, and idea generation for inventive art making. Teaching for Artistic Behavior (TAB) concepts enable students to experience the work of the artist through authentic learning opportunities and responsive teaching. The BNS art space is a place for new discoveries, working within a TAB environment while including Virginia Standards of Learning.*

## Students will:

- Document their creative process by keeping a sketchbook/journal.
- Become familiar with and apply the elements of art and principles of design to two and three-dimensional works of art
- Develop ideas for works of art by conducting research, making preliminary sketches, or constructing models
- Evaluate works of art
- Describe the changes that occur in clay during the ceramic process, and apply different clay attachment techniques
- Solve design problems
- Identify major art movements and styles
- Describe ways that social and cultural beliefs can influence responses to works of art
- Identify the contributions of artists to society

## Some topics to be covered this year:

- The elements and principles of art
- Drawing and design
- Perspective
- Painting
- Sculpture and ceramics
- Art history

## Project Engagement: 55% of grade

Students should treat class as an artist would treat working in a studio. There is limited time to use the studio, therefore they should use this time as efficiently as they can. Sharing space with other artists can be challenging, and it can be motivating as well. Ways for students to be engaged include: looking for resources to use for their art, working through ideas in their sketchbook, coming up with several approaches to finding a solution for their project, pre drawing the composition for their artwork, applying media to complete the artwork, not distracting others with unnecessary dialogue, asking others to please allow you to stay engaged in the current task you are trying to complete, and realizing that “thinking” can not be done while talking about something irrelevant to what you are trying to accomplish.

## Projects: 30% of grade

There will be many projects assigned throughout the term. The projects will take anywhere from one class period to a few weeks. Students will work at their own pace each trimester to complete projects, but will need to plan and manage their time. Students are given a problem to solve at the beginning of each project that might involve a particular medium, theme, or both. The project is considered finished when the student has completed a written reflection on key points.

## Sketchbooks: 15% of grade

Students will use sketchbooks/journals to document their creative process. Sketchbooks will be used for daily activities, sketching, note-taking, and brainstorming. Students may take their sketchbooks home as they wish, but are expected to have it with them for use in class.

\*Note about homework: I believe that putting in extra time to practice techniques or skills in any subject (including art) helps build skills in all areas of interest. Although I try not to assign specific exercises for homework, I encourage students to practice, explore, and build skills whenever they have time or need a creative outlet.

Late work: Students are expected to appropriately pace themselves in completing an artwork. There will be times when students have a specific date when work is expected to be turned in. If absent on that day, students must turn in art the day of return. If art is not turned in on the due date, the grade will be counted off 5% each day it is late, up to 10 days. Students are expected to come to the teacher to discuss an alternative option if an extended amount of time is needed.

