

# **VISUAL ARTS CURRICULUM.**

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## **VISUAL ARTS CURRICULUM.**

1. The Visual arts curriculum consists of six strands, each representing a medium for developing the child's expressive abilities. These strands are:

- Drawing
- Paint and colour
- Print
- Clay
- Construction
- Fabric and fibre.

Through these six strands, children explore the following seven visual elements when making, looking at, and responding to are: line, shape, form, colour and tone, pattern and rhythm, texture and spatial organisation. The Visual arts curriculum emphasises three starting points for the child's art activities:

- the child's own experience
- the child's imagination
- the child's observations.

In the Visual arts curriculum, the child will be encouraged to look and respond to a wide variety of artwork. It is through talking about these artworks that the child will develop sensitivity to the visual elements, and begin to use them purposefully in his own art-making. Of all the visual arts media, drawing has primary importance in the Visual arts curriculum, and it is through drawing that children's development in art is most evident. In making art, the process of making is as valuable as the final product.

### **Making art.**

2. The materials and techniques used by children in class are:

#### **Materials used**

- Paper
- Fabrics
- Lollypopsticks
- Glue
- Clay
- Marla
- Rushes
- Buttons, glass etc.
- Paint/Crayons etc.
- Bushes
- Chalk
- Potatoes etc

- Staplers
- Nature objects etc.

### **Techniques used.**

- Painting
- Printing
- Blowing
- Pottery
- Construction
- Weaving
- Drawing
- Etching

3. Children have opportunities to use both two and three-dimensional media in class.

4. In general, children will have choice in the materials they select for their own use in making art in class.

5. In addition to the six strands, other media which children will have opportunities to use are as follows:

- Etching
- Carving
- Weaving

### **Looking and responding.**

6. Children will have opportunities to look at and respond to art in the natural and living environment. E.g. children taken on nature walks. Visits to art galleries, museums.

7. Children will have opportunities to see how artists, craftspeople and designers work with(in), and in response to, their environments.

8. The following strategies to enable children to learn about how artists, craftspeople and designers work with(in), and in response to, their environments is as follows:

- School displays
- Trips to relevant centres, e.g. museums, galleries, craft centres
- On-line galleries or CD-ROMs
- Artists in residence
- Programmes on television and video
- Bring in art objects from home.

9. The following Strategies will be used to develop children's own ideas and responses to Visual arts will be:

- Music
- Mime
- Dance
- Poetry
- Other Curriculum areas

### **Approaches and methodologies.**

10. The following organisational settings in Visual arts will be used:

- Whole class teaching
- Pair work
- Group work Individual work
- Individual work

11. Children will have opportunities to discuss and talk about their own and others' work in Visual arts.

12. The following strategies will be used to enable children to develop a visual vocabulary for looking at and critiquing the Visual arts are:

- Art books
- C.D.'s
- T. V. programmes
- Visiting artists
- Pictures etc.

13. ICT will be used to support the Visual arts curriculum in the following Way(s):

#### **Use of ICT in the Visual arts curriculum.**

- Project work/Research on art/artists
- Art techniques
- Works of Art
- Art appreciation etc.

#### **Type of ICT used**

- Internet
- C.D.'s

14. Children will have opportunities to experience the Visual arts through theme-based activities which integrate the Visual arts curriculum with other subjects.

## **Assessment.**

15. Children's progress in Visual arts will be assessed in the following ways:

- Teacher observation
- Teacher-designed tasks
- Work samples, portfolios and projects
- Use of outside expertise – artists/craft people

16. Parents/guardians will be involved in supporting their children's progress in Visual arts by:

- Supply materials
- Assist in projects at home
- Use parental expertise in class
- Sign work
- Attend displays
- Take children to art exhibitions.