

# ART DOCENT PROGRAM

RINCON VALLEY UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

The goal of the Art Docent Program is to stimulate, at an early age, a child's awareness of art and to help them understand its process through hands on participation.

Each lesson has been selected for a particular grade level and offers a progressive understanding of artists, methods, and mediums.

Volunteers sign up to teach lessons in the classrooms once a month. Art Docents teach in one or more of RVUSD's eight elementary schools, offering almost a dozen art lessons at each grade level, kindergarten through sixth grade. The lessons are in kit format and our docents check out the lessons and materials; it's like a lending library of art lessons. The teachers in our district can request a lesson once a month throughout the school year.

The program runs from October 1st through May 20th.

The Art Docent Coordinator, Jeannie Behr, matches a volunteer (usually a parent) with a teacher, coordinates their schedules, and sets up a time for the volunteer to teach the lesson. When the monthly schedule is posted and the docents know what they will be teaching, they contact the coordinator to set up a time to learn the details of the lesson. The times listed for each lesson are the minimum time it takes to complete in the classroom.

The Art Docent Program started over 30 years ago and was modeled after another school district's program. It began with three parents with three lessons for all the schools in the district to share. The Art Docent Program has now grown to over 75 lessons, including a ceramic clay lesson at every grade level. We average 130 Art Docents and they teach more than 875 art lessons annually. This adds up to over twenty thousand individual pieces of art work that are created because of this wonderful program and the amazing group of volunteers that support it.

For information about the Art Docent Program please contact Jeannie Behr at 707-545-1771 ext. 4701, [jbehr@rvusd.org](mailto:jbehr@rvusd.org), or [jeanniebehr@hotmail.com](mailto:jeanniebehr@hotmail.com).

IT COSTS \$40,000 PER YEAR TO

- Purchase and prepare materials
- Restock Kits
- Recruit and train volunteers
- Coordinate schedules
- Develop new projects and samples
- Teach in those classrooms that do not have a volunteer assigned to them

Help us start 2021 strong as we ensure next year our Rincon Valley schools have docent led art instruction every month in each of our classrooms at every grade level.

SEE THE FULL CATALOG  
OF LESSONS BELOW

## Kindergarten

### **White Rabbit's Magic Color/ 40 minutes**

This lesson will introduce children to secondary colors. Children will use simple finger painting technique to mix colors.

### **Hide and Snake/ 45 minutes**

We will learn simple drawing skills and listen to a clever book. Then we will draw a picture in the illustrator's style

### **Frederick / 1 hour**

We will read Leo Lionni's story of mice in the winter. The students will create a collage that illustrates the story.

### **Sponge Painting/ 1 hour**

We will paint pictures using tempera paint and sponges instead of brushes.

### **My Pet Worm/ 50 minutes**

This is an oil pastel lesson with a water color wash and a glitter collar to finish it off. We will take a plain worm and make it beautiful.

### **Fantasy Birds/ 50 minutes**

This is a watercolor and sharpie lesson. The students will learn about primary and secondary colors.

### **Letter Bird/ 45 minutes**

The students will learn about contours (outlines) and spatial awareness while drawing a bird using letters combined together to make its shape. If time allows there is a letter turtle to draw too!

### **Butterfly Wings/ 1 hour**

This is an oil pastel and watercolor lessons. We'll learn about resist painting & symmetry

### **Chick Collage/1 hour**

This is a collage lesson made of cut colored paper. It's a picture of a chick popping out of its shell!

## First Grade

### **Cats / 1 hour**

Students will explore the use of oil pastels while creating a beautiful cat picture.

### **Oil Pastel Penguins/ 1 hour**

This is a guided drawing lesson using oil pastels on colored paper. The students will learn to draw a penguin then make their own penguin picture.

### **Today is Monday/ 1 hour**

We will discuss children's author & illustrator, Eric Carle, and how he makes his brilliantly colored collages. We will practice tracing and cutting skills. The teacher will need to finish after the collage dries.

### **Watercolor Animals/ 1 hour**

We will practice color mixing and brush techniques to create a fantasy animal.

### **Magnified Bugs/ 1 hour**

We will use colored paper, scissors and glue make this wonderful collage lesson. It's a giant bug under a giant magnifying glass.

### **Rainbow Fish/ 1 ¼ hour**

We will read the book *The Rainbow Fish*, a book about friendship, then draw and paint with watercolors to make a collage picture.

### **Lion Guided Drawing/ 1 hour**

This is a guided drawing lesson. Students will use a sharpie and follow drawing instruction to create a lion and color it in with crayons.

### **Harry the Dirty Dog Collage/ 1 hour**

In this collage lesson we will read a book then make a dog collage using newspaper. Once completed we will add a collar and name tag.

### **Flower Mural/ 1 hour**

This is a collage lesson. We will cut flowers out of colored paper to fill a vase and make a large class collage.

### **Watercolor Pigs 1 hour**

This is a guided drawing lesson using crayon resist then painted with watercolors.

## Second Grade

### **Dogs/ 1 hour**

This is an oil pastel lesson designed to help students learn new drawing techniques.

### **Color Wheel Picture/ 1 hour**

In this watercolor lesson we'll learn to color mix then turn our color wheel into a picture.

### **Miss Spider/ 1 ¼ hour**

This is a guided drawing lesson. It is based on the book *Miss Spider's Tea Party*.

### **Dinosaurs/ 1 ¼ hour**

This guided drawing lesson teaches students to draw using shapes and lines.

### **Watercolor Flowers/ 1 ¼ hour**

We'll color mix & use new brush techniques and design to create a flower picture.

### **Matisse Magic/ 1 hour**

Students will be cutting and pasting to create a "Matisse-style" composition. The emphasis is on color, shape and arrangement.

### **Porthole Pictures/ 1 hour**

We will draw with crayons from an interesting point of view then use a resist wash.

### **Picasso; Face in the Mirror/ 1 ¼ hour**

Using oil pastels, students will create a face in Picasso's style.

### **Exploring Winter/ 1hour**

Students will create an oil pastel picture of one of the seasons.

### **Changing Colors of Autumn/ 1 hour**

We will create an Autumnal leaf changing class wreath using watercolors.

### **Oil Pastel Owl/ 1 hour**

We will draw a beautifully colored owl using oil pastels on colored paper.

### **Torn Paper Bugs/ 1 hour**

A collage made with torn colored paper.

### **A House for a Hermit Crab / 1 ¼ hr**

This guided drawing of a hermit crab is inspired by Eric Carle's book, *A House for a Hermit Crab*.

## Third Grade

### **Native American Eagle/ 1 ¼ hour**

This is a drawing lesson guided by the docent. Learn how to draw using shapes and lines.

### **Space Skies/1 ¼ hour**

#### **(formerly called Starry Night)**

Learn new ways to create exciting effects with tempera: color mixing, movement in line and shapes.

### **When Pigasso Met Mootise/ 1 hour**

First a story then an art lesson using marking pens to create a masterpiece like Picasso & Matisse.

### **Printmaking/1 hour**

We will produce several prints of a simple line design using incising techniques.

### **Iris/ 1 ¼ hour**

Students will create a beautiful watercolor painting using the wet-on-wet and dry brush techniques.

### **Magic Blossoms/ 1 hour**

We will explore a new method of painting with water soluble pens and watercolor.

### **See and Draw/ 1 ¼ hour**

Learning to Draw is learning to See. This is an introduction to contour drawing.

### **Experimental Watercolor/ 1 ¼ hour**

We will introduce students to some new ways to use watercolors. The end result is a watercolor landscape.

### **Matisse Goldfish Collage/ 1 ¼ hour**

This is a collage lesson using colored paper. The lesson is inspired by Matisse and his *Goldfish in a Bowl* painting.

### **Value Leaves/1 ¼ hour**

We will explore color values in this lesson. We will draw simple leaves and paint them with different shades of colored tempera.

## Fourth Grade

### **See Shells/ 1 ½ hour**

Students will enlarge a portion of a shell in a decorative watercolor painting in the style of Georgia O'Keeffe.

### **Monet...Bridge at Giverny/ 1 ¼ hour**

We will paint water lilies and a bridge in Monet's style. Learn watercolor techniques of wet and dry brush painting.

### **Mexican Bark Painting/ 1 ½ hour**

Students will be using geometric shapes, color, and texture to create exotic birds in the tradition of an ancient Mexican craft.

### **Butterflies/ 1 ¼ hour**

This is a guided drawing lesson. Students will use shapes and lines to create a butterfly drawing.

### **Rainforest Toucans/ 1 ½ hour**

Students will learn about toucans and their habitat, the rainforest. We will explore the use of oil pastels.

### **van Gogh-a la Impasto/ 1 ½ hour**

Students will learn about Vincent van Gogh then paint with texture in a painting by using an impasto medium.

### **The Cool Blue Sea/ 1 ¼ hour**

In this lesson we will work with watercolors using cool colors, tints, and shades.

### **Silhouette Trees/ 1 ¼ hour**

We will paint a beautiful watercolor background then paint a silhouette of a tree in the foreground.

## Fifth Grade

### **Horse Guided Drawing /1 ¼ hour**

This is a guided drawing lesson. We will use lines and shapes to draw a horse.

### **What Would You Store in Your Jar?/1 ¼ hour**

This is a drawing with an unusual perspective. We will draw a jar and fill it with objects.

### **Paul Gauguin / 1 ½ hour**

Students will study the techniques of artist Paul Gauguin. We will paint color wheels then create a painting in the style of Gauguin.

### **Picasso; Face in the Mirror/ 1 ¼ hour**

A repeat from the second grade lesson. Draw a Picasso style face using oil pastels

### **Watercolor Trees /1 ½ hour**

Learn to use watercolor brush strokes and color to depict various tree forms.

### **Flower Impressions/ 1 ½ hour**

We will introduce the Impressionist painters using tempera paint to explore the inkblot method of applying paint and reinforce the principles of balance, symmetry & repetition.

### **Hawaiian Quilt Design /1 ¼ hour**

This lesson will teach students a traditional art medium. Then we will create a quilt design square using cut paper.

### **Tessellations / 1 ½ hour**

This is an introduction to tessellations and artist M.C. Escher. Students will create their own tessellating or repetitive pattern design.

### **Kandinsky Skies/ 1 ½ hour**

We will draw buildings with Russian architectural elements then fill the sky in the style of Kandinsky's colorful *Concentric Circles*.

## Sixth Grade

### **Cartooning/ 1 hour**

This basic lesson on how to draw cartoons includes a history of Charles Schulz.

### **Pop Art USA /1 ½ hour**

Advertising icons & their role in pop culture.

### **George Seraut – Pointillism /1 ½ hour**

Students will paint via Seurat's technique using tiny dots of color that make a picture.

### **Watercolor Still Life/ 1 ½ hour**

Create a Matisse-style still life painting, emphasizing composition, color and pattern.

### **Oh la Molas / 1 ¼ hour**

The lesson introduces students to the culture and art of the Kuna Indians of Panama.

### **Origami /1 ½ hour**

An intro to the ancient art of paper folding.

### **Cartouches / 1 ¼ hour**

Students will design a hieroglyphic picture with a name plate using Egyptian symbols.

### **Heads & Faces / 1 ½ hour**

We will learn about facial proportions and use an unusual technique of portrait drawing.

### **From a Distance /1 ½ hour**

Students will learn basic techniques of one point perspective drawing.

### **Klimpt Trees/ 1 ¼ hour**

Students draw in the style of Gustav Klimpt while learning about contours & texture.

### **Tree Frog/ 1 ¼ hour**

This is a guided drawing lesson using oil pastels to draw a colorful tree frog.

### **Guided Drawing Parrot 1 ½ hour**

Students will use sharpies & markers to create a colorful parrot picture.

### **Salvador Dali Elephants 1 ½- 2 hours**

We will draw a surreal elephant and color it with unusual techniques.

### **Illusion Cubes/ 1 ½ hour**

Students will make a cube appear using math skills and a pencil.

We have one lesson kit that is available to all grade levels.

### **In the Jungle Collage/ 1 ½ hours**

Students will make an animal collage out of recycled papers.

## FINE ARTS DAY

Jeannie Behr, in addition to being the Art Docent Program Coordinator, also helps to coordinate Fine Arts Day at each school site and teaches those days.

## WHAT IS IT ABOUT?

The Fine Arts Day Program is a 1 day intensive "art day" at each of our schools. Each class participates in two different grade appropriate art lessons - ranging from 3D art to mosaics to ballroom dancing to mural painting; and the day culminates in an all-school assembly. Lessons are led by a combination of artists trained in different mediums, parent volunteers, and classroom teachers.

## THE GOAL OF THE DAY IS THREEFOLD:

1. To expose our classrooms to an art medium that they might not have experienced before;
2. To give our students the opportunity to explore an art lesson at a deeper level;
3. To provide in depth art exploration during the classroom day in a safe, fun environment.