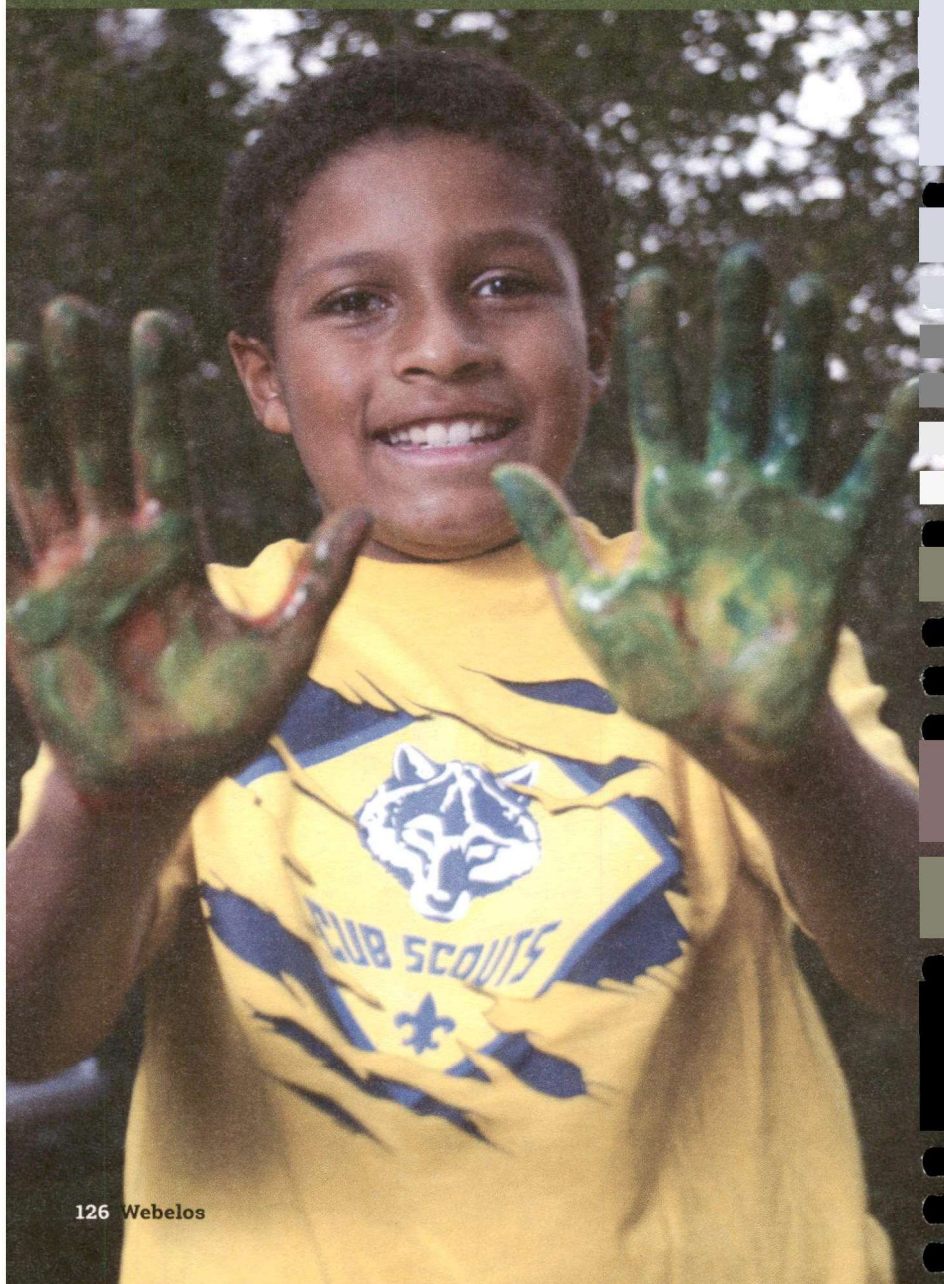


ART EXPLOSION

ELECTIVE ADVENTURE



SNAPSHOT OF ADVENTURE



Art is a powerful way to capture a moment in time, an idea, or an emotion. It's a lot of fun, too. You get to work with all sorts of gooey and gloppy materials, and you never have to worry about getting the right answer, because everybody's art is different. Whether you're into drawing, painting, sculpture, computer illustration, or photography, you'll find something to love in this Adventure.

REQUIREMENTS

Approved by

1. Create a piece of art by exploring drawing techniques using pencils.
2. Using a digital image, explore the effect of filters by changing an image using different editing or in-camera techniques.
3. Create a piece of art using paint as your medium.
4. Create a piece of art combining at least two media.

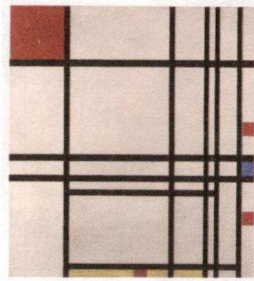
Art is everywhere! You might find posters, drawings, photographs, sculptures, and copies of famous paintings around your home, at school, on television, on the internet, and at stores you visit. Many works of art have been turned into T-shirts, umbrellas, and memes. You can find art while driving down the road. Street overpasses may have art built right into them, or walls may have murals painted on them. Art exists outside in sculpture gardens.



- Elective Adventure
- Scan for this Adventure page

An art museum, of course, is a museum that focuses on art. In a museum, works of art may be grouped by artist, theme, or when they were created. Often there will be a sign that will help you understand what you're seeing. An art gallery is similar to a museum except that the art is for sale. An art exhibit takes art out of the museum or gallery into a place like a library or school so that more people can enjoy it. One thing you'll discover is that artists have produced very different styles of art at different times in history. Here are some styles you may encounter:

► **Abstract** art uses color and shape to express emotion. You won't see subjects that you can recognize, but you may be able to sense what the artist was feeling when they created the art.

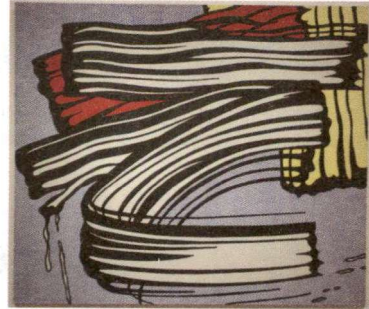


► **Expressionism** art also expresses feeling. Here, the subjects are recognizable, but certain features are emphasized, like the scariness of a thunderstorm.

► **Impressionism** art is designed to show the artist's first impressions of looking at the subject. Impressionism paintings often show outdoor scenes and focus on how light and color appear.



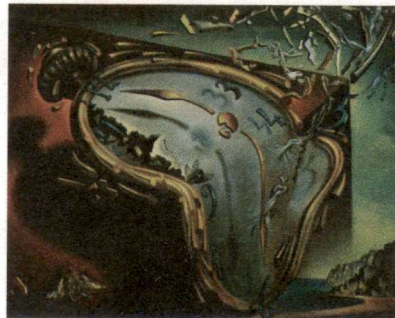
► **Pop** art uses everyday objects and bright colors to communicate ideas. Some pop art looks like comic strips or collages.



► **Realism** art is designed to accurately record what the subject looks like — almost like taking a photograph. Realism was popular before photography was invented because there was no other way to record how something looked.



► **Surrealism** art is often based on dreams or nightmares. The subjects may look recognizable, but something about them will be strange — sometimes very strange.

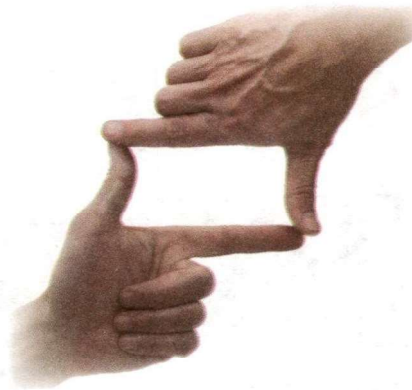


REQUIREMENT 1

Create a piece of art by exploring drawing techniques using pencils.

PICKING YOUR SUBJECT

To create a picture for this requirement, start by deciding what you want your picture to depict. Will it be your home? A scene in a nearby park? The playground at your school? (Be sure not to pick something that won't sit still, like a dog!)



Decide where your picture will begin and end. Hold your hands up to form a frame and move them around until you've enclosed just the parts of the scene you want to capture.

Types of Pencils

Graphite pencils are the most common types of pencil and are encased in wood. They are made of a mixture of clay and graphite, and their darkness varies from light gray to black. You're probably familiar with the type of pencil you use for school. The most common pencil is the No. 2. The number refers to how hard the graphite in the pencil is. No. 2 is in the middle between soft and hard. No. 1 is a soft pencil that smudges easily, and No. 3 is hard and used for fine details.





Sketching pencils

Sketching pencils are made for just that, drawing and sketching. They often come in sets because they have more than three types of graphite. The best types of pencils for sketching would be the HB, the 2B, 6B, and even the 9B. The harder the pencil type, the lighter the drawing, and the softer the pencil type, the darker the drawing will be.

Colored pencils

There are three main types of colored pencils: wax-based, oil-based, and water-soluble. You can also get color sticks and woodless pencils, which consist of the same "lead" material.

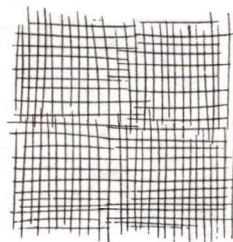
PENCIL TECHNIQUES

Hatching and Crosshatching

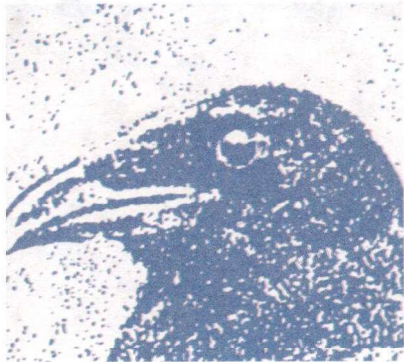
These methods are very common and effective ways to add depth to your sketches through shading. Hatching is a series of lines drawn along the main line of your drawing to create shadow and depth. These lines shouldn't touch. Crosshatching is a series of lines used in the same way but in this case they intersect or cross each other. The closer these lines are, the darker the shading in your drawing will be.



Hatching



Crosshatching



Stippling

Stippling is the art of using dots to add shading and depth, like hatching or crosshatching. The closer the dots, the deeper the effect. To ensure that your dots show up and make a better impact, it's best to use softer graphite for this effect, as it comes out darker.

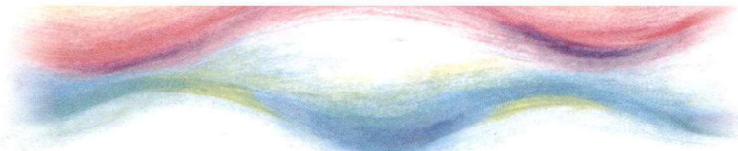
Scribbling

The characteristics of a scribbled sketch can be identified by the uneven and definitely not straight lines within the piece. Using random movements across the paper will result in a somewhat deconstructed image, and the more irregular lines created closer together, the darker it will appear.



Circling

Control the tone your pencil produces by simply adjusting the amount of pressure you place on it. To create smooth transitions, you can make small circular strokes that give you a more blended appearance. For this approach, a duller pencil works best.



Smooth Shading and Blending

To add a cleaner shading element to your drawing, you can try smooth shading. This can be done in a number of ways, including using your finger or a rolled-up piece of paper to blend in hatching or crosshatching. This will give your sketch a smoother appearance. You can also blend simply by angling your pencil to utilize the wider edge, creating thicker lines that give the appearance of shadows and shading.



Creating Highlights

Just as you would add shading to create depth and shadows to your sketch, you can also create highlights. Highlights

can help indicate where your light source is coming from and add extra detail, showing reflective surfaces. One great way to create this effect is by using an eraser to remove some of the pigment or shading to create lighter areas to indicate the absence of darkness.

Rendering

The practice of rendering takes the above technique to the next level. Rendering is essentially an approach to pencil sketching in which you apply graphite to your paper, and then remove some with your eraser to add the highlighting effect. It's an ongoing process of applying and removing the graphite and results in a very soft, almost blurred effect.



REQUIREMENT 2

Using a digital image, explore the effect of filters by changing an image using different editing or in-camera techniques.

Have you ever wondered why the photos you see in books and magazines may look better than your family snapshots? One reason is that professional photographers use cameras that can be adjusted and have a lot of practice using them! Another reason is that they use photo-editing software to improve the pictures they take.

You can do the same thing. Most computers include simple photo-editing software, and photo-editing apps are available for smartphones and tablets.

Here are some common tools to look for:



Crop tool — This tool lets you remove parts of the photo you don't want.



Brightness tool — This tool lets you make the overall photo lighter or darker.



Contrast tool — This tool lets you separately adjust the difference between your photo's light and dark areas.



Red-eye reduction tool — This tool fixes a problem where the camera flash makes a subject's eyes look bright red.

Filters on cameras change the type of light that is allowed into the camera. Most cameras today are digital and allow for edits to be made after the picture is taken. Computer software can take the image and simulate the effect a filter would have on a more traditional camera.

Many digital cameras have filters that can be applied to your picture after you take it. Here are some filters you may find on a phone camera:

Vivid — Creates more contrast. Contrast in photography is the ratio of different tones in an image. Tone refers to the levels of brightness in the photograph, from solid black to pure white. Shadows are dark tones; highlights are bright tones. This difference is what creates the textures, highlights, shadows, colors, and clarity in a photograph.

Vivid Warm — Adds the vivid filter with a yellow tint.

Vivid Cool — Adds the vivid filter with a blue tint.

Dramatic — Boosts the shadows and lowers the highlights.

Dramatic Warm — Adds the dramatic filter with a yellow tint.

Dramatic Cool — Adds the dramatic filter with a blue tint.

Mono — Turns into basic black and white.

Silvertone — Turns into black and white with more shadows.

Noir — Turns into black and white with high contrast.



Original



Vivid



Vivid Warm



Vivid Cool



Dramatic



Dramatic Warm



Dramatic Cool



Mono



Silvertone



Noir

REQUIREMENT 3

Create a piece of art using paint as your medium.

Before you start painting, you'll need to decide what picture you want to paint. Many artists who use paint will first sketch out what they want to paint. For this requirement, you may want to take the piece of art you made with pencil and use it as the subject for your painting.

Types of Paint

Here are some good choices for paint that cleans up with soap and water from your skin or a surface (all paints may stain your clothing):

- **Watercolor paint** comes as a set in a box. To use watercolor, you dab it with a wet brush. Watercolor paint won't hide a color you've already painted, but it lets the white of the paper show through, adding light to the color. You can paint on drawing paper or special watercolor paper.



- **Tempera paint** (poster paint) is liquid and dries quickly. It comes in small bottles or large squeeze bottles. You may use it on manila paper or heavy white drawing paper.

- **Acrylic paint** comes in large squeeze bottles or in tubes. You may use acrylic paint on canvas board or heavy paper. With tempera and acrylic paint, you can paint over areas you want to change.



For painting, you will need some other supplies:



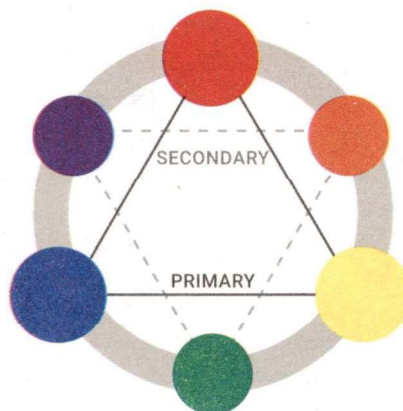
- ▶ **Brushes.** Inexpensive brushes with synthetic bristles will work for tempera and acrylic paint. (For acrylic, you must have synthetic bristles because the paint will ruin natural-hair bristles.) Watercolor brushes are softer, and camel hair is the least expensive. It's helpful to have two sizes of brushes — one for larger areas and one for detail.
- ▶ **A mixing palette or tray.** You can use a large plastic lid from a food container for tube acrylics. For tempera, school acrylics, and watercolor, which are runny, use several jar lids, or buy an inexpensive plastic paint tray with wells for colors.
- ▶ **A palette knife.** You will need this flexible mixing tool if you're using tube acrylics. For other paints, mix colors with your brush.
- ▶ **A sturdy water container.** You'll need to rinse paint from brushes before switching colors. Be sure to change the water often.
- ▶ **A sponge.** Use this to press excess water from your brush before dipping it in paint.
- ▶ **Cleanup supplies.** You'll need a rag for spills and soap and water to wash your brushes and other tools when you're done.

Paint can be messy. Wear clothes that can get paint on them or wear a smock to keep your clothes clean. Work at a table with a washable surface, or cover the table with a drop cloth or plastic. When you stop working, promptly wash your brushes and tools. Store brushes with the bristles pointing up in a jar, can, or mug.

Mixing Paint

A fun thing about painting is mixing paints to create different colors. From just a few basic colors, you can create just about any color for your paintings.

Look at the color wheel to the right. The primary colors are red, yellow, and blue. The secondary colors are orange, green, and violet. You can mix equal amounts of yellow and blue (primary colors) to make green (a secondary color). If you add more yellow, you'll get a yellow green; if you add more blue, you'll get a blue green.



To make a color lighter, add a small amount of white. To make it darker, add a little black.

If you're not sure about a color you've mixed, try it first on a piece of scrap paper. The more you paint, the more you'll learn about mixing colors.



Art supply stores sell paints in many colors. After working with the primary colors, you may decide to buy a few other colors to see what they are like.

REQUIREMENT 4

Create a piece of art combining at least two media.

A medium is the type of materials you use to create your art. For this Adventure, you have used two media: pencil and paint. Other media include ink (pens and markers), chalk, charcoal, and clay for sculpting.

Here are some examples of art that combine different media.

