

GO WEST, YOUNG ARTIST – TEACHER GUIDE



DESCRIPTION

Study the artwork and genres that define Western art and contemporary visionaries shaping its future. Dive into the stories behind these great works, while you develop the skills of art criticism and appreciation. Examine how the elements of art are used by artists to create meaningful and inspirational compositions.

THEMATIC CONCEPTS

Western artists portray the history and evolution of the American West.

- Albert Bierstadt paints a romanticized view of the West, blending realistic details with a sense of grandeur and sublime beauty.
- Frederic Remington captures the individualism and harsh realities of Western life.
- Charles Russell portrays everyday life by blending realism, warmth and narrative depth.
- Ernest Blumenschein and the Taos Art School bring national attention to the beauty and grandeur of the Southwest's land and people.
- Prix de West celebrates the diverse heritage and beauty of Western landscapes, wildlife and people.

OK ACADEMIC STANDARDS [2019]

Fine Arts

VA.CHP.1 – Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural and historical context to deepen understanding. (I.VA.CHP.1.1, II.VA.CHP.1.1, III.VA.CHP.1.1, II.VA.CHP.1.2, II.VA.CHP.1.2, III.VA.CHP.1.2)

VA.ARCM.1 – Perceive, analyze, interpret and evaluate artistic work. (I.VA.ARCM.1.2., I.VA.ARCM.1.5)

Social Studies

3.A.6-8.1 Gather, compare, and analyze evidence from primary and secondary sources on the same topic, identifying possible bias and evaluating credibility.

3.A.6-8.2 Draw conclusions regarding the plausible author, date, origin, audience, and purpose of primary sources when not easily identifiable in the source.

3.A.6-8.6 Analyze the roles of specific individuals and groups who shaped historically significant events, both nationally, regionally, and on a global scale.

3.A.6-8.7 Describe multiple factors that influence the perspectives of individuals and groups during historical eras or toward contemporary situations.

KEY WORDS AND TERMS

Balance – The way elements are arranged to create a sense of stability or equality in artwork.

Brushwork – The way an artist applies paint with a brush. It encompasses various techniques, including the thickness of paint, the direction of strokes and the texture created.

Color – The palette used by an artist for a particular work to create harmony, mood, etc.

Contrast – The difference between elements, like colors or textures, that are placed next to one another to bring attention or focus.

Composition – The arrangement of how visual elements (i.e., shapes, colors, lines and textures) are organized.

Emphasis – Special attention given to one part of an artwork; it can also pertain to where an object is placed.

Form - Three-dimensional objects, figures or the illusion of one in art; they have height, width, and depth, like a cube or sphere.

Harmony - The arrangement or use of similar elements to create a feeling they work together or are pieces of a whole.

Line – A fundamental element in art, which can be straight, curved, thick, thin or even implied. These can define shapes, create movement and convey emotions.

Movement – The use of elements which draw your eye to a certain place in the artwork.

Pattern – The regular, repeated arrangement of shapes, lines or colors.

Scale – The relationship between objects, such as size or number.

Shape - A two-dimensional flat figure that can take geographic forms.

Space – The area around, between or within objects in art; it can be positive (filled) or negative (empty) and show depth or distance.

Texture – the quality or appearance of a surface, such as smooth, rough, soft, etc. Actual texture can be felt (i.e., sculpture), whereas implied texture can be seen (i.e., brushwork).

Value – The lightness or darkness of a color that is used to create contrast, depth and three-dimensionality.

MUSEUM GALLERIES

William S. and Ann Atherton Gallery

Robert and Grace Eldridge *Prix de West* Gallery

Tour may be modified to accommodate group size, time constraints, and/or gallery availability.
