

SETTING CLASS EXPECTATIONS WITH ART MATERIALS

Practice using and returning art supplies

Essential Question: How can I practice caring for and borrowing art supplies safely/ respectfully?



Supplies Needed:	Art Vocabulary:	Learning Target:	Meets WA Learning Standard:
Drawing paper	Space	Students will understand how to use art supplies safely.	VA:Cr2.2.K
½ piece construction paper	Composition		
Charcoal pencils			
Pocket mirror			
scissors and glue sticks			

Instructions:

Talk about using art supplies and how important it is to treat shared supplies with respect. What does the glue stick, paint brush (etc.) look like now? What should it look like when done using it? Next, to distribute the art materials for this project, delegate tasks:

- Ask one student to distribute small pocket mirrors.
- Have one student distribute drawing paper.
- Have one student distribute charcoal pencils.
- Have one student distribute scissors and glue sticks. Show students how to carry scissors safely.

- Have students draw with charcoal pencil: 10 eyes, 10 noses and 10 mouths on one piece of 8.5" x 11" paper. These don't have to be realistic. Have fun!

- Ask students to choose their favorite 2 eyes, 1 nose, and 1 mouth and cut those out in different shapes (triangles, circles, squares, etc)

- On a separate piece of paper, have students arrange their face parts into a face and glue it down. Remind students to think about space & where the pieces of the face are located. Any arrangement is interesting. Make it fun/funny/silly

- For those who work quickly, have them make more than one face or have them add color. Or, have them turn the face pieces into an animal.

Give students a 5 minute warning before it is time to clean up.

When it's time to clean up, Show students how to roll down the glue and put the top back on the glue stick. Ask them to do it with you. Then delegate clean up:

- Have one student pick up and return all of the small pocket mirrors.
- Have one student pick up and return all of the charcoal pencils.
- Have one student pick up and return all of the scissors and glue sticks
- Have ALL other students pick up scraps and place them in the recycle bin.

Pro Tips for Success:

Teaching students how to use and care for art supplies is important and should be repeated over and over again in the classroom. *The more you practice using a variety of supplies respectfully, and delegating tasks to table groups or responsible students, the easier it will be throughout the year to do art projects.*

- Using visuals is helpful: Project a photo of what the class should look like during clean up and/or project a timer. This will help students stay on task.

Set the expectation early with your students. Have a clear place in your classroom for:

- Picking up/returning art supplies
- One large (Quart size) container with water for used paint brushes near the sink.
- A place where students can put art they don't want anymore (keep a box/bin for scraps that can be reused later)
- A place in the room for art pieces that need to dry or can be set aside for later. Some classes might fold a large piece of construction paper in half and tape the sides for a portfolio folder
- Keep sketchbooks in a separate bin/shelf in your room. Only use sketchbooks when you have a purpose or reason to use them.

Earning Rewards can be motivating: Maybe the class can earn rewards for doing this well or doing this quickly? You could consider making clean up transition a fun game:

"I wonder who can pick up the most scraps of paper on the floor?"

"Yesterday it took us 5.30 minutes to clean up, I wonder if we can do it safely in 5 min?"

"I see that xxx is doing a really good job of xxx, I wonder if xxxx can do that too"

You can repeat this project over and over again when using any kind of classroom supplies:

When introducing a new art medium (like watercolor) show students how to use the paintbrush gently and remind students the bristles shouldn't be rubbed too hard on the paper. "How would you want someone to treat your hair?" When done painting, show students how to put the used brushes in the shared water containers and show them how to rinse the brush free of paint, and lay it flat on paper towels to dry. Art Start NW has shared a visual chart for how to clean paint brushes, consider posting that infographic near your sink.