

Art Masterpiece Lesson Format and Tips for Success

1) Lessons are ONE HOUR long.

Some lessons require materials to be prepared before a lesson (i.e. paper being cut down to a specific size.) Plan on 15 minutes to clean up and put supplies away after you are done. Your total time at the school will probably be 1 ½ hours (max) on the day you present a lesson.

2) Keep your talking short. Fifteen minutes maximum:

a. Introduce yourself. (1 minute)

b. Review your previous lesson. Just a quick reminder about who the artist was and what the project was. (1 minute)

c. Introduce the artist (or type of art.) Include the name, where and when he/she lived, and any interesting fact (2 minutes)

d. Look at the art print. Use the keywords and explain what they mean. (i.e. Shape, pattern, balance, etc.) Generate a discussion. (3 minutes)

e. Explain the project. Give the method/goal/purpose. (i.e. To try painting in an impressionistic style or to do a self-portrait.) Show the example artwork and explain how it was done. (3 to 5 minutes.)

3) During the project, walk around the classroom to help and praise.

4) Keep track of time for the students!! Give 15 minute, 10 minute, and 5 minute warnings.

5) Students that finish early can help you with clean-up. If many students finish early, you can review what you've done with the class, using the kids' artwork as examples.

Additionally: The teacher will stay in the classroom with you. Most use the time to catch up on grading or emails. BUT, if you need help passing out supplies (or whatever) don't hesitate to ask him or her for help!

If you can't make a lesson for whatever reason (sick child, car battery is dead, etc.) let the teacher know ASAP!! Email is best because they can check it during the day; phone calls they can only answer before or after school. If you are lucky

and have a partner, let your partner know ASAP. Perhaps he/she can do it solo and you won't have to re-schedule.

Don't bring young children or babies to school during the lesson. It's against district policy and distracting as well. If, however, you have a high school student or older child who wants to help you with your lesson, please DO bring them!

Feel free to invite a neighbor or friend to help you. You can do the lesson, clean-up, and then have a nice lunch.

Don't "wing it." Stick to the lesson provided. If you don't understand a lesson or a project, please let your School Coordinator know ahead of your lesson so it can be explained. If you find a typo, or have a comment about the level of difficulty or simplicity of a lesson, please contact the District Art Masterpiece Program Coordinator.

Do let your school Coordinator know if you have any questions or concerns about any aspect of Art Masterpiece. Constructive criticism and advice ("The glue sticks are almost all out of glue") is received more positively than mere complaints ("This wasn't well-organized.")

Remember, everyone who does Art Masterpiece is a volunteer, doing this out of sheer good-natured willingness to serve. If you see a problem, help be part of the solution.

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