

# A Guide to the Colorado Academic Standards



## Working Together

To support families and teachers in realizing the goals of the Colorado Academic Standards, this guide provides an overview of the learning expectations for Fifth Grade Visual Arts. This guide offers some learning experiences students may engage in during this school year, experiences that may also be supported at home.

## Why Standards?

Created by Coloradans for Colorado students, the Colorado Academic Standards provide a grade-by-grade road map to help ensure students are successful in college, careers, and life. The standards aim to improve what students learn and how they learn in ten content areas – emphasizing critical-thinking, creativity, problem solving, collaboration, and communication as important life skills in the 21st century.

## Visual Arts Education for Elementary Schools (k-5)

The visual arts standards in the elementary years focus on General Art knowledge and skills to help create a foundation for artistic study in later years (drawing, painting, sculpture, graphic design, media arts). In each grade k-5, students explore techniques of various artistic styles, follow simple steps in the creation process, learn how to critique works of art, identify art in the world and daily life, and discover ways that artwork helps people better understand cultures and historical eras.

## Where can I learn more?

- Contact your school district regarding local decisions related to standards, curriculum, resources, and instruction.
- Colorado Academic Standards Booklets: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/GradeLevelBooks.asp>
- Karol Gates, Colorado Arts Content Specialist at 720-202-9268, [Gates\\_k@cde.state.co.us](mailto:Gates_k@cde.state.co.us)



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Department of Education

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everychild. onevoice.

At the end of  
Fifth Grade,  
students can...

The Colorado Academic Standards in Visual Arts are organized by elements of the Creative Process:  
Know/Comprehend → Critique/Evaluate/Refine → Create/Present → Connect/Apply/Transfer

## Visual Arts Education Learning Expectations for Fifth Grade

### Observe and Learn to Comprehend (Know/Comprehend)

Talk about how artists use art techniques (ideas, expression, composition) to give artwork meaning; explain why artists make art; consider and explain how artistic decisions are portrayed in works of art.

### Envision and Critique to Reflect (Critique/Evaluate/Refine)

Use proper art terms to talk about art; create plans to document the use of personal ideas/experiences will be used to create an artwork.

### Invent and Discover to Create (Create/Present)

Create art to show feelings and/or convey personal perceptions of the world; use technology (cameras, graphic design, illustrator software) to create art; make artwork plans based on knowledge of materials and techniques.

### Relate and Connect to Transfer (Connect/Apply/Transfer)

Help viewers understand ideas conveyed in personal artworks (drawing attention to important aspects of the art); recognize and discuss differences in art from various cultures.

## Throughout the Fifth Grade, you may find students successfully applying the elements of the creative process by...

- “Reading” an artwork through observing the use of color, texture, shading, symbols and discussing the artist’s intentions; researching and explaining how a specific piece of artwork describes people’s experiences or a particular event.
- Explaining how people judge a piece of artwork (personal likes, dislikes, preferences); describing how people respond differently to art from familiar and unfamiliar cultures.
- Using planning tools to research and develop ideas for personal artwork.
- Exploring ways to use art materials to convey a personal feeling or idea or to create an artwork that represents the ideas of others.
- Using technology resources (digital cameras, graphic design, illustrator software) to create artwork.

