

Words to Know

Art Vocabulary for Grades Kindergarten through Three

Add these words to your vocabulary lists or use them in matching games with works of art. Introduce new works of art from www.learn.michenerartmuseum.org to make your matches.

ABSTRACT– art that is not realistic, though it can be based on something real.

COLLAGE – art that is made by combining different types of cut and torn paper.

COMPOSITION – the arrangement of the elements in a work of art. More simply, where an artist arranges things in his or her creations.

DOCENT – a museum guide who usually works for free.

FRAME –the support element that surrounds a work of art usually made of wood or metal.

HORIZON – the line in the furthest distance where the land or sea seems to meet the sky.

PALETTE – the tool used by an artist on which he or she mixes paint. It can be made of wood, metal, marble, ceramic, plastic, glass or paper, and it sometimes has a hole for the thumb to make it easy for an artist to hold while working.

PEDESTAL – a support for a sculpture.

PORTRAIT – any form of art expression that features an animal or a person as its main subject matter.

REALISTIC– a style of art that shows places, events, people or objects as the eye sees them.

STILL LIFE - a composition featuring inanimate objects such as flowers or food or vases. Objects in a still life cannot get up and walk away by themselves.

TWO-DIMENSIONAL - artwork that is flat and measured only by height and width. Two-dimensional art is sometimes called “2-D.”

THREE-DIMENSIONAL - artwork measured by height, width and depth. Three-dimensional art is sometimes called “3-D.”

