

Art A Day CHALLENGE: A Matter of Principle

Washington County Museum of Fine Arts

FA4: Understand and apply content specific vocabulary and notation of each artistic discipline.

In order to perform or assess art appropriately, artists must first understand and be able to apply content specific vocabulary and notation.

How do artists use the Principles of Design to create effective art work?

We challenge you to an art activity each day of the School Closure! If you decide to complete this challenge, share it with us in the comments and on Instagram @WCMFA and use the hashtag #ARTaDayCHALLENGE

Stuff you'll need: Read through the challenge to decide...the materials you use are up to you!

Words to know:

Principles of Design describe the way an artist uses the elements of art. **Principles of Design** are:

- **Balance:** the distribution of visual weight of objects, shapes, color, lines, and spaces. Usually, balance is achieved through: symmetry (the elements that are used on one side are used in the exact same way on the other); asymmetry, where sides are different, but they still look like they are balanced and have the same amount of visual weight on both sides; or radial, where elements are arranged around the center and usually repeat to create balance.
- **Emphasis:** An area of a design that stands out. Sometimes the artists makes this one element contrasting color, size, texture, or shape.
- **Movement/Rhythm:** Elements are recurring throughout the composition creating rhythm. The path the viewer's eye travels while looking at artwork created movement.
- **Proportion:** The relationship between the sizes of different objects in the same artwork.
- **Harmony:** All of the parts of an artwork working together
- **Pattern:** An alternating arrangement of repeated elements
- **Contrast:** The arrangement of opposite elements in artwork, placed together, to create visual interest



Ilean Ekins
Grade 9
BISFA
Teacher, Todd Geiman

LOOK at the art work in the High School Art section from the 1st ever, Virtual Washington County Public Schools Art Exhibition hosted by the Washington County Museum of Fine Art, 2020.

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/e/2PACX-IvTz14JmZ_GyyG7S-eJRCosolSkf1OqRGzkvShavv-PLLF21LU6olw_NfAEQuTtnjBUxclVIS3w7abPf/pub?start=false&loop=false&delayms=3000&slide=id.g781e7a9aaf_0_0

Select one of the **Principles of Designs**. Read the definition of the word. Research more examples of this Principle of Design in art. Now, select one piece of art work from the High School Art section that grabs your attention and demonstrated a clear example of the use of the **Principle of Design** you are focusing on.

For example: Look at the artwork create by Ilean Ekins (9th grade, Barbara Ingram School for the Arts). The artist clearly demonstrates an understanding of **balance!** The design is radially symmetrical. The objects from nature are arranged from the center and are repeated to create this strong sense of **balance**.

THINK about the example of art above by Ilean Ekins. Would this art work be as effective if the artist did not use the **Principle of Design, balance?** If the flowers and leaves were placed in different directions or placed in random areas, would this work still have the same strengths?

CREATE an original artwork that uses the **Principle of Design** you selected as your focus. Feel free to use any art making technique or medium that could help you achieve your creative goal. This includes: drawing, painting, photography, collage, sculpture, digital media, etc. You can use the art work you've selected as inspiration, but do not copy the design.

How did the use of this **Principle of Design** guide your artmaking process? Was the **Principle of Design** the most important part of making your art work or did your intention evolve as you were creating? What else became important to you as you created? If you took this **Principle of Design** away from your art, would this artwork be as effective in achieving your intention?

Writing Journal Prompt: Do you find yourself drawn to look at certain works of art? Have you ever really liked a logo, design, or visual artwork but you weren't really sure why? Describe how **Principles of Design** can create interest, even when the viewer may not realize it. Use a design from your everyday life as an example (a logo, furniture, product design, clothing, shoes, jewelry, etc).



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