

Words to know

Art Vocabulary for Grades Kindergarten through Three

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.”

