Fabulous art projects that will inspire your students to explore and create wonderful art work in a fun and creative way. Includes tutorial, tips and photos. Enjoy!

Ms. Alejandra

Creative Art Projects for Kids for Anytime!

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Hi! Ms. Ale here. I know you are a busy teacher and I also know how much time you spend on planning. To help you out, I have a free gift for you! I have put together three of my favorite art lessons you and your students will love. You can use these lessons in your class anytime during the year, holidays, at home, after school club, etc.- just not for commercial purposes please. You may share this e-book with your teacher friends too! The supplies are inexpensive and I bet you can find most of them around your house or classroom.

I know you will enjoy doing these projects with your kids so please let me know how they turned out. You can drop me an email at ale.sartroom@gmail.com, leave a comment on the Art Lessons for Kids Facebook page or @Ms.Alejandra on Twitter.

Be amazing today and every day.

Ms. Alejandra

These lessons are specially created for Kinder to Grade Six and can be adapted to any age level. For more ideas, lessons and e-books, please visit: www.artlessonsforkids.me

Photo: Dot Loveland

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Hi! My name is Alejandra. I am so glad you are here today.

I am an art teacher with over 15 years of international teaching experience in some of the world’s most exciting countries like Indonesia, Venezuela, Turkey, Bolivia and Bahrain. I am author of several e-books that have step by step lesson plans for some of my best art projects I have taught throughout my career.

I am founder of Art Lessons for Kids which is a blog filled with fabulous art lessons that I have taught over the last few years. I share these freely with you and other educators all over the world because I believe that we must create a community of sharing and caring to be able to achieve excellence amongst educators.

The Art Lessons for Kids blog and e-books is where I show you step by step how to teach creatively. I teach you how to promote and inspire an atmosphere of learning, exploring, making connections and I teach you to do things differently. I want you to succeed and be that amazing teacher that students will never forget and will remember with a huge smile.

Do any of these challenges sound familiar to you?

- Not enough planning time
- Running out of ideas because you are tired
- Not enough resources
- Feeling isolated
- Unmotivated kids
- New teacher or a Sub

I faced these same problems myself and found that it began to affect my teaching. I searched online for ready made lessons to help me out a bit but found it increasingly frustrating to sort through all the lessons and find the really good ones. I found many of the lessons lacked detail, had very few photos and a step by step plan.
About This e-Book…

I decided to make a change and do things differently. I began my blog with plenty of step by step lesson plans so I would have an archive of my lessons for myself and for anyone else who taught art to elementary students. As my blog followers grew, so did the requests if I had e-books for sale.

This idea led me to gather some of my best lessons and write step by step easy lesson plan e-books that were available for immediate download so anyone, anywhere could have instant lesson plans that were fabulous and engaging for students.

I am incredibly proud of my work and hope you enjoy the lessons as much as my students and I did. If I can help you in any way reduce your planning time to allow you to concentrate on being the best teacher you can possibly be, then I am a happy person indeed.

Remember, you are an amazing teacher. Don’t ever lose focus of that.

Here’s to your teaching success today and everyday.

Ms.Ale

PS: Think you can write your own e-book? Of course you can!! Click on the yellow link below for more information:

YES-I want to write an e-book!
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Paper

- For general art projects (drawing, marker, tempera, pastel) Sulphite White Drawing Paper Economy Manila and assorted colored construction paper. I buy packs of 12” x18”, 18”x 12” and 18”x24”. I am currently using Blick Sulphite white and manila and am very happy with the quality.
- Rolls of butcher paper--white or tan

Brushes

Make sure you have a variety of brushes. There are economy brush assortments you can buy in bulk which are great. Just make sure you have small, medium and large round watercolor brushes, stiff large brushes for large painting projects and flat tip brushes in different sizes.

Tempera Paint

I use Crayola Paint for most of the painting lessons. I buy one gallon of green, orange, purple and brown and then buy 5 gallons of red, yellow and blue so that my students make their own colors rather than rely on boring store made colors. Have plenty of white and 2 gallons of black.

Have you tried using acrylic paints? It’s a nice change for kids to use especially on canvas. I am currently using Nasco Bulk-Krylic and I am happy with the results. Don’t limit yourself to canvas. Acrylic is great for wood, cardboard, plastic and material like t’shirts and aprons. Go wild!

Watercolor Paint

I use the tubes, the pan style, water color pencils and watercolor crayons. They are all great for kids to begin exploring the wonderful world of watercolors.

Pastels

I absolutely love pastels! I use Pentel Arts Oil Pastels and Creativity Street Chalk Pastels with 48 assorted colors. These also come in packs of warm colors and cool colors. We do quite a few lessons with pastels so I have plenty of them.

Continued...
Markers

I use Crayola Broad-tip Markers, Thin Tip and Chisel. Go for the classroom packs that have a huge variety of colors.

Buy plenty of Waterproof black Markers for outlining. Make sure you have thick and thin markers. Sharpies are a must in the classroom and now come in so many great colors.

Crayons

I use Crayola, thin and thick crayons.

Don’t Forget...

- Glue sticks– get lots because kids go through these very quickly. Use the empty bottles for recycled art lessons 😊
- White school glue — I use Elmer’s Glue.
- Pencils
- Erasers
- Pencil sharpeners– get good quality ones.
- 6” x 9” hard plastic trays for storing things.
- Plastic 6-well paint trays
- Acrylic Puff Paint (Gallery Glass window color)
- Black Sharpies
- Assorted Wooden scrap pieces or Woodsies Wood Shapes from Dick Blick
- Recycled containers for water, paint, crayons, markers and pencils, individual sized yogurt containers are great as well as foam trays from the supermarket
- Aprons or old shirts and t’shirt to protect the clothing while painting
- Old newspaper to protect the tables when painting and for filling.
- old magazines

Art Suppliers I Like to Use:

- Dick Blick
- MisterArt
- Blick Art Supplies
Chagall Inspired Dreaming

SUPPLIES

- 12x18 white construction paper for each student
- Pencils and erasers
- Oil pastels
- Watered down tempera paint (three colors of your choice)
- Paint brushes
- Art smock
- Old newspaper to cover the painting area

“Your students will create a gorgeous dream picture in the style of Marc Chagall.” Ms. Ale
Start the lesson with a lively discussion about dreams. Remember everyone has something interesting to share. Kids certainly love to talk about their dreams as you will soon find out!

Next, show a few Chagall dream paintings that you can easily find on Google images. Talk about the ‘clues’ that made the painting look like a dream, etc. A great word to introduce at this point is **surrealism**.

Give out large white paper and ask the students to draw a dream world filled with buildings and trees on the bottom of their paper. They should include themselves flying horizontally on the top section. They could either fly with someone or a favorite toy that they needed to hold. The sun or moon could also have a face.

“Surrealism paintings were generally based on dreams filled with familiar objects painted to look strange or mysterious.”

Source: library.thinkquest.org

Remember!

*Share some of your dreams with your students!*

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Have your students outline their drawings with a black crayon and fill the rest of the spaces with oil pastels.

Time to paint! Set up a painting station with three containers filled with watered down tempera paint (your choice). After the kids finish up coloring in, they should put on their apron and paint their backgrounds.

For a nice effect, while the paint is wet, have your students add salt or glitter to their background. Since the paint is wet, there is no need to use glue.

“Stick to no more than three paint colors for the background. Choose colors that are not typical and ‘real’ such as red, green, or purple. Make sure the whole background is painted.”

Secret: What Does the Salt Do?
Once dry, the salt will crystallize making the painting shine and sparkle!
“You can adapt this art lessons for any age level. Try using acrylic paint and just adding some details with oil pastels. A variation of this lesson could be to do a make-believe dream world around a theme such as a fruit or vegetable world.”
Pretend Stained Glass

SUPPLIES

- vinyl packaging or overhead projector sheets
- Paper in the same same size as your vinyl package or projector sheet
- Pencils and erasers
- Art smock
- Old newspaper to cover the painting area
- Gallery Glass Window Color
- Black Sharpie

“I save absolutely everything because I know that sooner or later I will be inspired to use it with a lesson. This is what happened with the vinyl packages that my art aprons came in. Instead of ending up in the garbage I cut them open at the seams and suddenly they became ‘glass’ for a stained glass project perfect for younger students.”

Ms. Ale

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1. Cut the drawing paper the exact size as the vinyl sheet. With a black Sharpie, draw a border on both. Make sure they both match up.

2. Next, give out the drawing paper, pencils and erasers. Explain to your students what stained glass is and show some examples on internet.

Then, ask your students to think of one simple thing they can draw inside of the border. It can be an animal, insect, plant, etc. Once they are drawn, each student should outline their picture with a black marker.

“ If you don’t have vinyl sheets—don’t worry! Use over head projector sheets instead. They work just as well and they are not as crinkly as the vinyl ones.

Remember!

* Stick to one picture only with big areas to color in—trust me on this one! *
Depending on the age, place each student's vinyl sheet on top of their drawn picture and outline their pictures with a black sharpie marker. If they are older and you have enough permanent markers, then they can do this part on their own.

Time to paint! Place 3 different colors of Gallery Glass window colors. I call this the 'magic’ paint because it changes when it’s dry. Show everyone how to squeeze just the right amount to color in their pictures.

Let the kids fill in their areas of their animal, insect or plant. Once they paint one area, they can move onto another section. Encourage them to go back to some areas and squeeze out a bit of paint in another color and see what happens when it dries!

“An easy way to fill color into an area is to ‘squeeze and color in circles -as the paint comes out they spread it around with the circular movements.”

Super Tip to Remember:
Let them add quite a bit of paint and if the colors run into each other or go out of the lines a bit, all the better-the effect is wonderful!
You can adapt this art lesson for any age level. Try having older students create abstracts that fit the whole area inside a smaller border. How about some self portraits--now wouldn’t that look amazing?
Wooden Scrap Art

SUPPLIES

- recycled pieces of cardboard in different sizes
- assortment of wooden scrap pieces or Woodsies Wood Shapes
- White Glue (Elmers)
- Oil Pastels
- Enthusiasm and a big smile

“This is a lesson of pure exploration and FUN. Touching, moving, stacking and glueing are the only instructions and you want to leave it as open as possible. It’s amazing what your students will create with a few bits and pieces of scrap wooden pieces. Get ready to be blown away!”

Ms. Ale

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Collect as many scrap pieces of wood as you can. You can also get a box of assorted wooden scraps from any of the art catalogs such as Dick Blick and Lakeshore. Look for Woodsies Wood Shapes.

Next, give each student a cardboard piece and let them choose between 10-20 wooden pieces to start off with and play around with their composition and planning. Exploration is the key and anything goes!

Give out glue bottles and once your students are ready, they can glue each piece on the cardboard. Encourage layering pieces too.

“As your students begin to glue their pieces, remind them that it’s OK to have pieces stick out from the cardboard—it doesn’t all have to fit inside the shape of the cardboard!”

Try this...

Play some classical music in the background to inspire creativity. Mozart is the best!
Option 2:

Paint the cardboard either black or white for the background. Paint each wooden piece with tempera or acrylic paint in a whole variety of colors and let them dry before going onto the next step.

Using oil pastels, color each wooden piece with different designs and colors. Stripes, dots, swirls and zig-zags are some ideas.

Glue all the pieces in the place following the original design that was planned earlier.

“Why not have half the class do a ‘natural’ look while the other does a colorful whimsical look.”

Super Tip to Remember:

Use old brushes to paint on the glue so they it is evenly coated.
“You can use this art lessons for any age level. Try having your students paint the wooden pieces using complimentary colors-- painting a wooden piece purple and adding yellow oil pastel details. The sky’s the limit here!”
I hope you have enjoyed these lessons. Below you will find other e-books filled with exciting and fun art projects you can do with your students in class or at home. Please remember they are not for commercial use. Click on the titles to purchase. For more information about these e-books, click HERE.

Here’s to your success today and every day.

Ms. Alejandra