

Can you answer the following questions?

1. What is art?
2. How many kinds of art are there?
3. Why does art exist?
4. Why do we need the fine arts?
5. Are skills inherited or learned?
6. What are the main components of art?
7. How many different media can you name?
8. What is a dimensional plane?
9. How does inspiration work?

These questions will be answered in this curriculum.

TO THE EDUCATOR How to Use This Manual

I hope you have taken the time to read the researched article entitled “Art is Good for My Brain?” It contains information that will inspire you to continue with the art program.

DOES THE WORLD NEED ANOTHER ART CURRICULUM?

Spears Art Studio K-8 Christian Art Curriculum© is in response to prompting by the Holy Spirit; otherwise I would not have had sufficient inspiration to write it, nor would I have thought it necessary. Inspiration for these art units and activities has come from the Word of God and from prayer. One can have a measure of success in fitting projects to the Word of God, but it works WONDERFULLY when the Word inspires the projects.

***Thy hands have made me and fashioned me: give me understanding,
that I may learn thy commandments.
Psalms 119:73***

Spears Art Studio MISSION STATEMENT

1. to recognize the hand of God in everything and to give Him glory;
2. to reconnect the Lord as the Supreme Artist to the process and excitement of learning for both children and educators through the study and activity of art;
3. to provide resources for the Christian educator that:
 - a. help students make connections between the Creator, creativity, and personal maturity;
 - b. are organized for natural learning progression;
 - c. provide experiences for higher order thinking skills;
 - d. “stretch” academic and manipulative skills;
 - e. introduce students to famous artists and artworks incorporated into a seasonal and/or art elements/principles arrangement of art and craft production.

The Lord has made it possible for me to gather information and techniques from many sources and to organize the material into a logical progression of skills. All the projects have been FIELD TESTED, so they work! Many of the techniques are familiar and have been used by teachers throughout the years. The unique thing, however, about ***Spears Art Studio K-8 Christian Art Curriculum***© is that when used as directed, it accomplishes the following:

1. relates art, its appreciation and skills to our relationship to God and His Word;
2. stimulates confidence in the ability to be creative by requiring students to increasingly make attainable choices appropriate to each grade level;
3. develops students in listening skills, observation skills, following directions, depth and color perceptions, eye-hand coordination, "stretching" already acquired skills, using many different media, and exercising problem-solving skills;
4. uses materials readily available to limited budgets;
5. provides SOLID ART INSTRUCTION (not "busy work") which covers basic art concepts
6. provides instructions and diagrams in the simplest form so that ANY teacher can present and carry out the lesson successfully even if that teacher has had limited art training;
7. provides 269 separate art activities and 137 reproducible patterns, posters, and examples.

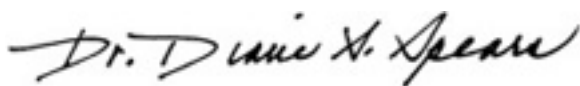
The over-all structure of ***Spears Art Studio K-8 Christian Art Curriculum***© is seasonal and incorporates major holidays. This curriculum covers the complete academic year, providing a weekly theme and a minimum of one art activity per grade level based on that theme. Some themes combine grade levels. Each weekly theme has one or more Scriptures as a foundation for the weekly activities. Many activities relate the lesson to additional Scriptures. Each art activity is approximately forty-five to sixty minutes each week. The information in the teacher preparation (weekly introduction to the theme) in many cases is much more comprehensive than can be presented to the students, but is included for the teacher's preparation and inspiration. Any theme and activity is to be adapted to your own preferences and to the needs and abilities of your students.

Please do not skip over any of the Introduction (especially if you have limited art experience), since there is valuable information in presenting lessons and setting up the art classroom. Even though you can "pick and choose" many lessons and themes, it is advisable to not skip September weeks 2-4 due to some basic information about line and shape that is necessary for many other activities.

Spears Art Studio K-8 Christian Art Curriculum© is not meant to replace your favorite projects, but to supplement and give continuity to art instruction. It is an affordable and appropriate Christian alternative to expensive secular art curricula.

I believe it will be easy to use and will bless your students.

In the Wonderful Name of Jesus,



Dr. Diane Shields Spears

