

Westtown Thornbury Elementary

Art Class

Student directed and Choice-based



“Choice-based art education regards students as artists and offers students real choices for responding to their own interests and ideas through artmaking” (Douglas, Crowe, Jaquith, & Brannigan)

The art room will focus on a pedagogy called Teaching Artistic Behavior. This focuses on student choice over projects and student-directed learning in the art room.

We look forward to annual Art Shows every Spring!

Please check my website for more information:

<https://teodeckartroom.weebly.com/>

Twitter: @MrsTeoArt

Art helps students to find their own creative voice through imagination, self-expression, and autonomy.

Whenever I gave a teacher-directed problem, students were using my ideas to create, not their own. Changing to a more student-centered approach led me to TAB (Teaching for Artistic Behavior).

Some of the artwork created is not meant for exhibition.

Play and experimentation are essential to creative development, confidence, and risk-taking. In an environment that supports creativity, I value process over product.

This way of teaching guides students to think like artists.

They are becoming critical thinkers and working through their own ideas. I suggest asking your students

- “What is this artwork about?”
- “What was your goal with this piece of artwork?”
- “What did you envision with this work?”

Art class meets National Core Arts Standards as well as 21st Century Skills. The new standards focus on ideas, problem solving, independence, and creativity.

Thanks for taking the time to learn about the art studio!

Please visit my website for more information and specific curriculum goals!

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8 STUDIO HABITS OF MIND

1. Develop Craft: Learning to use tools, materials, artistic conventions.

2. Engage & Persist: Learning to embrace problems of relevance within the art world and/or of personal importance.

3. Envision: Learning to picture mentally what cannot be directly observed, and imagine possible next steps in making a piece.

4. Express: Learning to create works that convey an idea, a feeling, or a personal meaning.

5. Observe: Learning to attend to visual contexts more closely than ordinary “looking” requires.

6. Reflect: Learning to think and talk with others about an aspect of one’s work or working process.

7. Stretch & Explore: Learning to reach beyond one’s capacities, to explore playfully without a preconceived plan, and to embrace the opportunity to learn from mistakes.

8. Understand Arts Community: Learn to communicate as an artist and with other artists in the school and community.