



Hello Everyone!

Welcome back to a fun-filled school year here at Dr. Ronald E. McNair Elementary. We are so excited to get down to business and make some art!

The students will begin their year with a drawing unit. Towards the end of the quarter, we will transition into our painting unit. Fear not if your children come home with paint on their clothes. It is washable!

In an effort to help keep our space as clean and safe as possible, we are asking for a donation of cleaning wipes and hand sanitizer. Thank you in advance for your donation!

Kindergarten

Big Idea: Self / Curiosity and Wonder

Drawing: Kindergarten will start the year learning about basic and complex shapes. Basic shapes: square, rectangle, triangle, circle, oval, and heart. Complex shapes: diamond, pentagon, hexagon, octagon, crescent and star. We then work to create a drawing using all of these shapes.

Painting: Students will explore primary (red, blue and yellow) and secondary colors (orange, green and purple) through color mixing.

Upon completion, we will move into how to use a paint brush to create different types of lines.

After we learn how to effectively use a paint brush, we will work to create a painting of houses using mixed media: paper and paint.

1st Grade

Big Idea: Family / Place

Drawing: 1st grade students will create a drawing of a family member. This drawing will focus on the proportions of the human face. We will work on coloring techniques while learning how to overlap and layer colors to create shadows and depth in our artwork. The family members will be holding objects that the students connect with that family member.

Painting: When we begin our painting unit, students will learn age appropriate painting techniques which include various styles of lines and blending.

The students will then use these painting techniques to create a painting of a town or city of their design.

2nd Grade

Big Idea: Community

Drawing: 2nd grade students will work on a drawing that depicts themselves and a neighborhood or community friend. This lesson will focus on the proportions of human faces along with how to add details to convey meaning in their work. Students will include a setting as the background of where they enjoy spending time with this friend. The lesson will include shading and layering during the coloring process.

Painting: When we begin our painting unit, students will learn age appropriate painting techniques including, outline/fill-in, blending and wet-on-wet color mixing.

Students will create a painting of an “Architectural Duck.” These are buildings that look like what they sell. I.E. a flower shop might look like a plant or a flower pot. Students then create a setting or environment for these buildings to exist in.

3rd Grade

Big Idea: Story / Culture

Drawing: 3rd grade students will create a drawing of a composite or “chimera” animal. These animals will combine together 3-5 animals to create their own unique animal. Students will use our new chromebooks to research images to help them learn how animals' bodies move and are drawn. Students will then place the animal in habitats appropriate for the created animal.

Painting: When we begin our painting unit, students will learn age appropriate painting techniques which include blending, wet-on-wet color mixing, and sponge painting.

Students will engage in the painting or, “A Place to Remember.” These paintings will include a building from a place students want to visit or explore. This could be a place they are already familiar with, or a completely new place. We focus on buildings outside of the US.

4th Grade

Big Idea: Tradition / Time

Drawing: 4th grade students will work to complete a self portrait. However, this will not be a conventional selfie. Half of the student's face will be covered with objects from their past, present and future interests or activities. This project is a chance for students to reflect on how they have changed while offering them an opportunity to think about how they would like to grow.

Painting: When we begin our painting unit, students will learn age appropriate painting techniques including, blending, stippling and sgraffito.

Students will create a painting which illustrates a landscape from the past or their perception of the future.

5th Grade

Big Idea: Change / Transformation / Globalization

Drawing: 5th grade students will work to create their very own 3D Food Trucks. This is a new project this year that we are working on. The students are taking on the role of entrepreneur and creating the truck's design, menu, and logo.

Painting: When we begin our painting unit, students will learn age appropriate painting techniques including, blending, sgraffito and dabbing.

Students will create a painting of an alien landscape. They create a completely new environment. We look at different types of habitats and they pick and choose from various ones to create their own alien landscape.

Where's all your children's artwork? That's a great question! We keep their artwork safely here at school until after Spring Break, when we have our school wide Art Show! Look for more information in future newsletters.

Interested in Volunteering? We can always use help prepping paper in various sizes and cutting burlap to get ready for the end of the year textile units. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact me at jennifer_a_martinelli@mcpsmd.org.

Thanks so much for reading!

Jennifer Martinelli and Jill Woodworth