

## Teaching Points for Art Escape

*Art Escape encourages the exploration of diverse art forms to cultivate greater self-awareness, develop skills for thoughtful communication, and build strong community connections for everyone in Sonoma Valley.*

**Please incorporate the following teaching points into your class. Throughout the class, please have your assistant record the use of these elements through photography and written documentation. Ask questions to prompt conversation about these topics in age appropriate language.**

- ***Cultivating self-awareness:*** Make time for students to reflect on a work of art that they have made. Show them how to shift their perspective to see the work from someone else's eyes. Remind students how making art can teach people about themselves. Teach your students to use visual arts vocabulary to perceive and respond to observations when looking at objects in real life. Show how this allows people to be more aware of the world around them.
- ***Develop skills for thoughtful communication:*** Teach both non-verbal and verbal communication skills so that your students can express their thoughts artistically and with words. Show your students how to analyze and derive meaning from works of art, including their own, according to the elements of art, the principles of design and aesthetic qualities. Teach students how to receive constructive feedback positively.
- ***Build strong community connections:*** Demonstrate the power of community. Emphasize how working collaboratively can richen outcome and how individuals are part of a bigger whole. Contextualize what you're doing by incorporating themes from art history or the contemporary art world. Explain the importance of volunteering and engaging within the community. Teach students the value of visiting art museums and supporting the arts.

***Please incorporate the following teaching points as applicable:***

- Allow students to develop their craft. Increase their knowledge of using tools, teaching them to improve physical dexterity, visual observation skills and resourcefulness.
- Give your students time to focus on what they are learning. Show how roadblocks strengthen their ability to persist. Remind them how this can improve performance in school or at work. Give students the skills to use art to improve their self-confidence.
- Ask your students to use their imagination to envision a work of art that is yet to be made. How did they respond when the work is made if it doesn't look like what they had envisioned? Teach how "happy accidents" can result in unforeseen avenues.
- Inspire your students to do further research on a topic that was discussed in class.
- Prompt your students to use problem solving and time management skills.