

## Activity 4 - Analyzing Your Artwork

### Visual Art

Project  
Outcome:

- Analyze, select and curate artifacts and/or artworks for presentation.

TIPP Outcomes. As a result of completing this activity you will:

- Use the learned information in new situations to solve problems or to change one's behavior
- Identify possible solutions to a problem or situation
- Make the needed effort to carry out a task or a plan



Creating visual art using your own ideas and interests is exciting and enjoyable! In the beginning set of activities you learned that visual art is defined as an art form intended to be appreciated or perceived primarily by sight, such as sketching, drawing, painting and printmaking. The term “fine art” is interchangeable with “visual art.”

Do you critique your work to discover if your artwork is improving from creation to creation?

Have you analyzed your work to determine if you are using the principles and elements of design in a pleasing way?

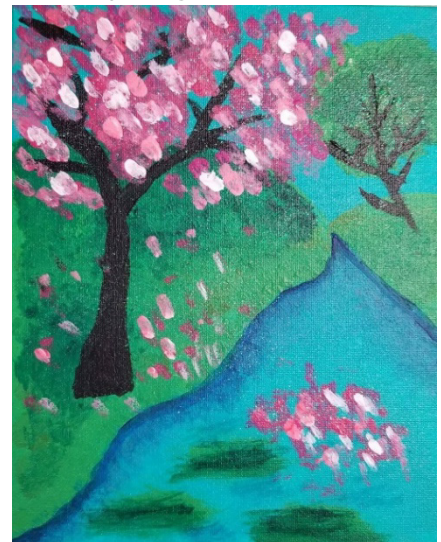
In this activity, you will discover a tool that can be used to evaluate your work and analyze your creations and the works of others.

### Analyzing Visual Art

The following is a form that can be completed when analyzing visual art and can be used when critiquing your own work or the works of others. A critique is a detailed analysis and assessment of something, like an evaluation.

### Activities:

- Use the form that follows and analyze the painting in the image to the right.
- Then select an art piece you have made and follow the same process. Remember that graphic art made using computers counts as visual art.



3. Practice this process on several art pieces you have made and when viewing other pieces in museums or public places or select a painting or drawing online.
4. Be sure to make a copy of the completed form and the image you are critiquing to include in your portfolio.

**ANALYZING VISUAL ART**  
**(CRITIQUE OF YOUR WORK or THE WORK OF OTHERS)**  
**Selection of Materials**

What materials (media) were used (Ex: acrylic paint on canvas):

Is the piece realistic, stylized realistic or abstract?

**Analysis of the Elements and Principles of Design**

What is the distinctive feature(s) used in this piece (choose from line, color, shape or texture)?

Is there repetition in the piece, and if so, where?

What is the center of interest (focal point) in the work?

How does the artist draw your attention to the piece?

How does the artist use space and perspective, (Ex: depth, shadows, light/darkness)?

What is your perception of the following and how it is used in the piece:

(Check your answer)	Excellent	Good	Needs Improvement	Explain your Answer
Balance				
Proportion				

Describe the color(s) of the piece:

List below	Analysis of Use of Color
Hue(s) [color name]:	Use of color is (check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> appropriate <input type="checkbox"/> dynamic <input type="checkbox"/> soothing <input type="checkbox"/> adds interest to the piece
Value [tint/shade]:	Value and Intensity are (check all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> appropriate <input type="checkbox"/> contrasting to add interest <input type="checkbox"/> pleasing to the eye <input type="checkbox"/> not used enough to add a pleasing look
Intensity [bright/dull]:	

**Quality of Workmanship**

(Check your answer)	Excellent	Good	Needs Improvement	Explain your answer:
<b>Neatness</b>				
<b>Good use of techniques</b>				
<b>Overall aesthetics</b>				

**Interpretation** - What do you think the artist is trying to say with the piece (what is the story it tells)? Is it traditional or contemporary, and how does it make you feel?

## Activity 5 - Getting Your Artwork Ready to Show

### Visual Art

Project

Outcome:

- Prepare art pieces for presentation (matting, framing, etc.).

TIPP Outcomes. As a result of completing this activity you will be able to:

- Use the learned information in new situations to solve problems or to change one's behavior
- Identify possible solutions to a problem or situation
- Make the needed effort to carry out a task or a plan



Have you ever thought about showing some of your artwork, whether as part of a county/regional fair entry or competition or providing your work for viewing at a local library or public facility?

In this activity, you will discover tools that can be used to analyze your creations and prepare them to show.

### Why enter your art in a competition?

- It builds your confidence.
- It helps you develop your skills.
- It helps you develop a better understanding of the principles and elements of design.
- It helps you gain recognition for your talent.
- It is fun and exciting.



### General Guidelines to follow when selecting art to show:

1. Follow the guidelines and deadlines for the specific contest (if entering a contest).
2. Allow sufficient time to complete forms, evaluate your work, and complete the process.
3. Choose your best work (Use the form in the previous exercise "Analyzing Your Work" to determine your best work).

4. Make sure your art is presented properly, framed neatly where appropriate, etc.
5. Determine if you need a pedestal, easel or other item on which to display your work.
6. Complete forms and/or tags as part of entry process for contest.
7. If you win, enjoy the experience and be a gracious winner.
8. If you don't win, be a good sport, learn from the process and practice your technique for the next time.
9. Keep records of what you have entered and if you won ribbons, money, etc. (make an image of what you enter for your portfolio. Also, in the process of making your artwork, have someone take a picture of you at work.).

Source: [samanthasbell.com/art-contests-for-kids/](http://samanthasbell.com/art-contests-for-kids/)

### Example of score card used to evaluate work:

When entering your artwork in a competition, it will be evaluated using judging criteria. Below you will find an example of a scorecard that is typically used for arts and crafts competitions. Note: items on score cards may vary. By reviewing this related to an item you are considering entering in a contest, you can better decide which item is best to enter.

Judging Criteria	Score 1 -10 (10 being excellent)
<b>Project Knowledge</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of design elements (line, color, texture, space, shape, form)</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of principles of design (balance, variety, emphasis, rhythm, repetition, proportion, pattern, unity)</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Artisanship in use of media (materials) and tools</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creativity: unique, distinctive, shows individual style</li> </ul>	
<b>Entry Presentation</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Neat appearance</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follows entry requirements</li> </ul>	

FOCUS: Explanation of Project Entry (If part of the entry process)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explanation of theme/idea of creation and goal of entry</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ability to explain decisions made in the process of creating artwork</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explanation of skills learned and plans for continued study/work</li> </ul>	
TOTAL SCORE	
COMMENTS	

Source: University of Illinois Extension

### Creating a Concept Statement

As part of an entry for a contest or if you want to exhibit your work in a public location, you may need what is called a concept statement. This gives the viewer a better idea of your work. The concept statement should be no more than 200 words. It includes the following sections which answer the questions:

Overview, concepts, ideas:

- How did your theme come about?
- What are the concepts, issues or ideas you explored, and how are they linked in your work?
- What experiences contributed to the making of this work?

Selection of work:

- What materials and techniques did you use, and why did you choose these?
- Do the materials have an impact on the meaning of the work?
- How do you justify your selection of the work chosen?

Viewer Relationship:

- How does the way the work is displayed, hung or otherwise presented contribute to how it communicates with the viewer?
- How do you want your audience to experience it?
- Do you have an overall vision for presenting this body of work?

Source: [sites.google.com/a/hbuhsd.edu/ib-art/studio-work-and-iwb-assessment](https://sites.google.com/a/hbuhsd.edu/ib-art/studio-work-and-iwb-assessment)

**Example of Concept Statement:**

My artwork is semiabstract, inspired by my walks along streams. I used line and color to capture the essence of the water banks. My piece, which I call "Evening Streams," uses acrylic paint, exploring various techniques of using large sponge brushes and regular brushes, sometimes removing paint by using brushes with no paint. I used shades and tints of green to create interest. The piece is displayed on a wall for the viewer to be able to focus on the piece. I want the audience when viewing this piece to feel like they are beside a peaceful riverbank and experiencing calmness.



"Evening Streams" by Nick Collins



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