



Cultural awareness and expression

Reinvent your world

Are you excited to **discover your surroundings in a fun way?** In this unit you will go outside and discover your neighbourhood, a park, a forest, a field or any other kind of environment and create art from what you can find around you.

Discipline area	Art, civic education
Topic	Arts
Estimated time	1h 40'
Learning goals	<p>If you go through the whole unit, you will</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • get new insights about the meaning of art • develop awareness for the many tiny things around you • develop your creativity • become a master of recycling for artistic purposes

Warm-up

What do you think is art?

Share your thoughts with your buddy and give some examples: what artworks come to your mind?


Learn

Get ready to take a fresh look at your surroundings and discover what exciting tasks you will complete!

Step 1

Read these 4 definitions of art:


WHAT IS ART?



1 "Art is anything which is considered as such **by specialized institutions** (like art schools and museums)!"
(institutionalist perspective)

2 "Art is anything which is perceived as art by the ones who experience it (see it, hear it...), **not just by experts!**"

WHAT IS ART?



3 "Art is anything which was **meant as such**, no matters what the experts or general public state!"
(proceduralist perspective)

4 "Art is anything that has an **aesthetic function** and in that very context doesn't have any other function"
(functionalist perspective)

Step 2

Think together of something which is probably art from an institutional perspective.

Now, that you have it in mind: Do **you** think that is art? And what about the artworks you recalled in the warm-up?"

Step 3

Go for a walk together and look around. Find together objects which can be considered art, because **you think** they are art works **and/or** because **they are used with an artistic function** (with no other practical function). Are there artefacts which are art for one of you and aren't for the other?

Create

Now let's take the proceduralists' perspective seriously: **you will make art** and that will be art, because you made it with this intention!

1

Walk around, outside, and collect things you find such as leaves, stones, twigs, strings, bottles, bags...

Now find a suitable surface, such as the sidewalk or the lawn of a park and create together a picture with the materials you found.

Note: The more different materials you use, the more difficult it is to work with.

2

Look at the piece of art that you have created together! What do you see in it? What do you like about it? What would you change?

Share your thoughts with your buddy.

3

Take another look at your artwork! Think about other pieces of art, for example the ones you talked about in the warm-up. Choose one of them and compare it to your work of art. What is similar? What is different? You can write down your thoughts, if you want.

4

Improve your work of art!

Now that you have reflected on your own piece of art with your buddy, try to improve it by adding or removing elements, changing its shape, etc. Make sure that each of you contributes to the changes and is happy with them!

Reflect

Look at the materials you used to create your art piece.

Think and discuss with your buddies where you are, **why you might have found these materials here and how they got here.**

How are you changing their story and their meaning?